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VOL. XIV.

MAY, 1877.

NO. 5.

THE
MARYLAND FARMER:

A
MONTHLY MAGAZINE:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

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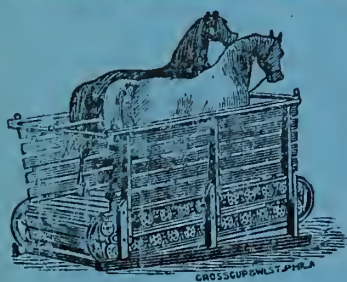
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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XIV.

BALTIMORE, MAY, 1877.

No. 5

Our Farmers and Fruit Growers.

Read at the April meeting of the Potomac
Fruit Growers Association.

All honor to farmers who turn the brown soil,
And learn nature's secrets while busy at toil;
Who go to the earth for their counsel and cash,
That lay in the furrows just hidden by trash;
We welcome you gladly, there's a broad way to
Eden,
Where God made the garden, and satan made "weed-
in."

Then gard'ning was fairer, with fruitage of heaven,
And man was its keeper, so Eve's now forgiven,
For tasting the apple and eating the fruit,
That the palate of man has just seasoned to suit.
First gardening was grander, more honored the brow,
That sweat not in toil or furrowed as now;
When the cradle of ages rocked science quite o'er,
And crowded the old farmer with hobbies to store.
God never, in Eden had counters and clerks,
Nor a pastime for idlers, or a footstool for shirks;
Then honored the farmer, the rich earth his pride,
And the great trees of life just growing outside.
Don't tell me of glory in old book's damp mold;
Preach not of the future in stocks to be sold;
Pray not mention politics, you may bid as you please,
There's some richer nabobs to fall on their knees
And buy out your office, and step in your tracks,
If they carry a world full of sin on their backs.
Earth's great loving soil springs responsive to all,
Farmers list to her voices, they welcome her call;
So planting by roadside, hence ages to be,
Shall fruitage and flower adorn some old trees
That the woodman may covet, but still not a limb
Shall the cruel axe sever, or the bold woodman trim.
A down distant ages the faint echo of time,
Shall be heard by the nations in answering chime;
One bond shall then clasp in fraternity kind,
When our contract with nature is legally signed,
And Eden's fair picture shall be mirrored so plain,
That Eve cannot mar it by sinning again.

Washington, April 1877.

BESSIE BEECH.

Little Robbie went to a show and saw an elephant, for the first time in his life. When he came home, his mother asked him what he had seen. "An elephant, mamma, that gobbled hay with his front tail."

SURE THING FOR THE FARMER.

The farm is the source of supply for the greater part of the human needs. Most of what we eat, drink, and wear, is produced from soil. Until steam and machinery brought about a division of labor, the clothing was spun, woven and made at home, and before the coal mines were opened, the fuel was taken from the farms, near the large towns, just as it is now in the far back rural districts. One does not have to remember a great many years back to recall the spinning wheel and loom, and people now living have worn the home-made cloth, and slept under home-made sheets; and still it is not far to go back before we come to open wood fires replenished from the wood-lot of the ancestral farm.

Machinery has been introduced into agriculture and fewer laborers are needed for work upon the soil. The iron plow, the mowing and reaping machines, the horse-rake, improved implements of every sort, have rendered it possible to dispense with many hands, and this is one cause of the phenomenon which has so alarmed many political economists, the exodus of the agricultural population from the farms, and their congregation into commercial and manufacturing centres.

Horace Greely; who was a man of wide observation and great practical sense reiterated the advice of "Go west, young man," until people turned it into a joke; and yet it was good advice. Now, there is no need of going west to find cheap farms; they are at our doors. We have cheap lands near to a market, and waiting to be tilled. In the flush times, when the Government was a great consumer on account of the war, when the earth yielded abundantly of all the great staples, as was fortunately the case in those years, manufacturers were stimulated to an unusual prosperity, such as could not be looked for under any ordinary circumstances.

People left the country for the towns, and made more money in a year than they had ever made on the little farm. But when the artificial stimulus is taken away, we find such poverty and suffering in towns as is never known in the country. The farmer with a very few acres, with only one or two cows, a pig, and a flock of hens and ducks, may not be able to make a fortune, but he is comparatively independent of the world; he is sure of a comfortable and respectable subsistence. The proprietor of the soil always has a respectable position.

When the high tide of prosperous business sets in, the people in the towns feel it first, and in the largest measure; but when such disasters come, as those of 1837 and 1857, or of the general depression of the past year or two, it is the poor in towns who suffer. In the fields it is merely as a lack of superfluities; in the city, as the wolf at the door; grim poverty staring one in the face and pointing to the poor house as the only hope of refuge.

The earth is stable and a mother who runs not to extremes. Her rewards are moderate, but she is constant and unfailing. Money is made in trade and manufacturing, but the earth yields her increase, and gives a support to those who faithfully till her bosom, whether the tide of business rushes in full current, or stagnates in the green pools of bank vaults.

Comments by the MARYLAND FARMER.—The above article, from "Chapin's Homes and Farms Advertiser," furnishes food for reflection, and is a fruitful text for farmers and agricultural writers to think upon. We think it very doubtful whether the introduction of improved agricultural machinery makes fewer farm laborers necessary; undoubtedly, machinery reduces the amount of *hard, tugging labor*, to be done by hand; but, at the same time it opens up new channels for more of easier and nicer hand labor, and makes new demands for *skilled labor*, which the power-machines cannot do.

The land and fields must be put in cleaner and better condition to get best results from machine operations; stones, stumps and brush must be picked up and out of the way; hillocks and rough places must be smoothed and leveled down; the multitude of steam and other machinery are great consumers of wood, timber and metals, and they must be gotten from the forests and the mines and the swamps, to an extent never to be demanded but for this extensive machinery.

Then, as they have consumed and are consuming the forest at a destructive depleting rate, *new forests must be planted* and cultivated; and this work requires skill and intelligence to do it, very

little of which can be done by the machines; planting and tending young forests, requires *thinking* labor, and is a most interesting employment for the thoughtful men and boys, and will afford business enough for all of such that machinery relieves of other field toil, which is harder.

It was early feared that Railways would do away with most of the need of draft horses; but how very different is the result. More might be said, but this is enough for the present.

Alfalfa or Lucern.

A correspondent of the Waco Examiner writes as follows about this valuable forage:

In reply to Mr. G. B. Dalby, Boston, Texas, respecting the so-called Alfalfa or Californian Clover, I would first say the above names are misappropriated. The proper name for this forage plant is "Lucern," belongs to the same order as Clover, and forms a distinct genus. "Medicago," of which there are several species, the Lucerne being the most important. Its botanical name is "Medicago Sativa." It is especially adapted for warm climates, such as this. It is a perennial, and when grown under proper and favorable circumstances, heavy and numerous cuttings may be made from it. The Lucern is best adapted to a "dry, deep soil," deeply plowed and subsoiled, if possible; thoroughly harrowed; seed sown latter end of March or early in April; brush-harrow after sowing and roll same; keep stock from tramping, and do not cut it for hay first year; after that you may stock as heavy as you like, you cannot kill it.

There is no plant in cultivation as a forage plant that will stand the drought as lucern. Hogs are specially fond of it, in fact, any animal will leave corn to eat lucern, either green or in hay. Hogs must have rings in their noses or they will root up the plant, which they are very fond of. I have pulled roots this spring that had gone down three feet. This is its great feature and in consequence never suffers for moisture. Every man who has stock of any kind, should have a few acres of it. It is specially adapted to the Texas upland and climate. I am sir, yours truly,

THOS. S. CROSS,

HOGS AND SHEEP.—At a meeting of the Deer Creek Farmers' Club, Mr. Webster said, that it will pay to keep sheep and hogs. You are obliged to keep up good fences, and that is one of the best means of having good neighbors. A farmer can make more money out of hogs and sheep than anything else, but he thought more money can be made on sheep than hogs.

Agricultural Calendar.**FARM WORK FOR MAY.**

This is a month often precarious in its weather. It usually is a helpful one to the farmer, but sometimes it is so cold as to impede vegetables and grasses, hurtful to fruit, and prejudicial to the health of young stock; especially very young lambs and calves. We may always look for a long cold spell of rainy, bad weather, which stops working or plowing the ground, and so fatal to young turkeys, that old country women have designated it as "the May turkey rain." The husbandman then should look out for it, and guard against it by sheltering the tender born animals. He should be diligent to embrace every good day, when the land is dry enough, to finish his fallowing and plant his corn and other crops.

CORN.

Plant corn as early as it can be done properly, that is soon as the land has been well plowed, got in fine tilth with the harrow, has been highly manured or fertilized and salted by an application of a few bushels of salt per acre to destroy the ground worm, wire worm, etc.; and the land dry enough. Do not spare the seed and plant in checks 3x4 feet; or drill, 3 or 3½ feet between the drills, to be thinned to 16 or 18 inches in the drill. By this course and following our suggestions last month upon Corn Culture, you may reasonably expect a large yield.

TOBACCO.

Preparing the last year's crop for market, will continue when the weather is suitable for such work. Treat your plant-beds as we suggested in our April number.

Break up the ground for the coming crop, and keep light and clean by frequent harrowing until you are ready to "strike up" the hills, or throw up the "lists" if you desire to plant it in drills and work it only one way, which some excellent planters prefer, as on strong ground the yield will be greater,

But few will be likely to plant before next month, except such as have been wise and energet-

ic enough to have a portion of their tobacco seed sown in hot-beds, as Messrs. R. D. Burroughs and J. T. Walker of Prince George's county, Md., did last year with such success.

PLASTER CLOVER FIELDS.

If not done already, sow a bushel or two of plaster to the acre, over your clover fields and other pasture and grass plots.

PUMPKINS, PEAS AND BEANS.

As soon as the corn is high enough to thin plant near the corn one or two pumpkin seed in every 4th or 6th hill of corn in every third row, until you have planted as much seed as you desire. At the end of each row of corn plant a few Carolina peas or Cockston beans. They will give a good crop. The pumpkins are excellent for the hogs and cattle, especially for milch-cows, for both butter and milk.

POTATOES.

If this valuable crop has not been planted for winter use, do so, as soon as you can. It is a robust grower and requires a rich soil. A very rich soil renders it more liable to disease, while a poor soil will not bring a crop worth securing. A heavy turf plowed under in time to decompose will be rich enough, with a light dressing of plaster and ashes or bone-dust, tobacco-dust, etc. It is best however, to have had the land manured heavily last fall and plowed under, and now cross-plowed deep and intermix the manure intimately, by harrowing, with the soil. Run furrows 4 inches deep and 3 feet apart, drop cut potatoes with two eyes to the piece, 16 inches apart in the furrow and cover with a small plow. If grass should appear, run the harrow over the ground, and do the same as soon as the potato plants appear, going across the furrows or rows. After that, do as recommended in the MARYLAND FARMER for March. We should have said, sprinkle the bottom of the furrows with ashes, slacked lime, tobacco-dust, bone-dust etc.

A light, warm loam is the best soil for potatoes. Plant good sound varieties, such as early and late Rose, Peach Blow of the improved kind. We are indisposed to recommend a trial on a large scale of any one of the many new sorts that yearly are put in the market with a flourish of trumpets, but we think it well, for each farmer to experiment with a few pounds of one or more new varieties to test for himself their value; but in doing so, he should try their merits alongside of an old popular sort, giving each precisely the same cultivation, soil and manure.

ROOTS.

Now is the time to sow the seeds of sugar beets, Mangolds, carrots and parsnips for stock. Of their culture and importance as food for stock, we have written so much heretofore, it would be superogatory for a rehash at this time of our views. We only feel sure that he who raises a plenty of these roots once, will be sure to grow them each year afterwards more extensively, having recognized their value in efficiency and economy as cattle food.

SWEET POTATOES.

Let us urge the propriety and importance of growing large crops of *sweet potatoes*. The climate and soil and sections of the country, where the MARYLAND FARMER has the largest circulation are admirably adapted to the growth of this popular esculent and profitable product. If any is unprovided with sprouts of the best yellow kinds, they can easily in a few days provide themselves with strong slips ready for planting, at a small sum, say \$5 or \$6 per 1000 in this state or in the North as advertised by most nurserymen. The *Nansemond* is the most popular variety. Sweet potatoes cost less manure and labor than the Irish, bring higher prices, meet readier sale in autumn, produces one third or double per acre, are easier gathered, and can be kept all winter as well as the Irish potato, by the new process which has been explained in this Journal but will be repeated before the time for their harvest comes on. This crop is not subject to the casualties of the Irish potato, and as yet has escaped the ravages of the Potato-bug whose taste seems to cling like Paddy's, to the "Praties."

RUTA BAGAS.

Prepare the ground for your Ruta Bagas, so as to be ready to sow them about the middle of June. These roots, about half an acre in each kind before named, would produce enough for feeding a small amount of stock, say 6 cows, 4 horses, 10 hogs and 20 sheep, with some grain and long provender or hay. The carrot and parsnip are said to make horses fat and healthy and brighten their coats.

MILLET, OR HUNGARIAN GRASS.

A few acres of good land well prepared and 200 lbs of Fertilizer (we prefer the Missouri Bone Meal) to the acre. and 3 pecks, or 36 lbs of Hungarian grass harrowed in and rolled, will be sure to give three tons per acre of fine hay, more nutritive than same quantity of timothy. If intended for hay, cut it when the seed first begins to turn yellow at top, if for both seed and hay, then wait until about half the seed be ripe, and as reap-

ed or cradled, bind up or put in shocks unbound and treat as oats. As soon as dry, thresh it out, winnow the seed and stack neatly, or put in the barn the straw. An acre ought to yield 25 to 30 bushels of seed. It is fine food for fowls and for stock is better than oats or broom corn seed. If the oat or hay crop fails, the farmer will find German Millet or Hungarian grass, (which is nearly or quite as valuable) an excellent substitute; and even much better, in the opinion of some growers.

STOCK OF ALL KINDS.

Working beasts should be well fed and cared for this month. They have to perform constant and hard labor at this season, and when the change from cold to hot weather is sudden, has a depressing effect upon them, more so than the rigors of winter, or the blazing heat of the dog-days of midsummer. Milch cows with calves, should have access to grass and be well fed besides. Sheep and lambs require green pastures, or if grass is scarce, give them oats and cracked corn, or mill-feed daily with what salt they will lick clean. Brood mares with young colts should be kept to themselves and under shelter in cool or stormy weather, fed generously.

Corn and cob together, crushed fine by the improved *cob and corn crusher*, is excellent food for them, also for milch-cows, and young stock. If it be made into a mush, or thick swill it is capital food for hogs and young pigs.

ORCHARD AND DECIDUOUS TREES.

Prune and dress the orchard trees, and the lawn ornamental trees, with prudent judgment, according to the requirements and habits of the tree: not rough hewing, hacking and destroying the symmetry, beauty and often the health if not the life of the tree. Then wash the bodies and up the larger limbs with a mixture of these proportions: one pint of sifted ashes, one pint of lime, one quart of soft soap, one pint of salt; add water enough to reduce it to the consistency of thick white wash, apply with a white wash brush. We have found this and somewhat similar preparations to be destructive of insects and their larvæ, healthy to the tree, and giving the bark after a week or so a smooth clean and growing look.

DR. Rufus W. Doshiell's favorite horse—Pompey—which has been sick for over two weeks is now getting better. The doctor studied "Horseology" for his especial benefit, and has treated him successfully.—*Somerset Herald*.

What was the matter, and what did the doctor do for it?

For the Maryland Farmer.

HEATHSVILLE, VA., March 26, 1877.

Editor MD. FARMER :

I have been an advocate of *Top-Dressing* winter wheat; and, in fact, of applying manure on top of the ground only.

Letting manure lay in a pile, or scattered over the pen, to have its substances washed out, or to be burnt, is attended with too great waste. My experience has been, that one load of manure spread fresh from the stable is worth two loads that have been allowed to lay and burn and be washed of its substance.

My plan is as follows : As soon as there is a load haul to the fields and spread on the poorest places any time from December to March, on the winter wheat; then spread on the *Clover* till April; then on ground intended for wheat until August ; then on corn land (for next spring) till December ; then on wheat again.

Some people cry out, that the sun draws all the strength out of the manure when so spread; not so. To such I say—stake off two pieces of ground, of the same size ; on one piece spread one load of fresh manure, in August, and let it lay till spring ; in the spring put one equal load of well rotted manure on the other piece ; then plow both pieces alike; and put in corn on both, and tend both alike ; and then let the barrel tell the tale which is best.

Keep the two pieces staked off, of the corn, and put in wheat on them ; thrash separate, and test them by the half; and then send report of results to the MARYLAND FARMER.

By this plan of manuring considerable labor is saved, as you have but one hauling of the manure. If you use *cut straw* or *stalks*, chaff, leaves, or any short stuff for bedding your stock, you will have no trouble in spreading your manure on the wheat or on any other crop.

With wheat *top-dressed* in this manner, there is no difficulty in getting a stand of *clover*, when sowed with it, or on it.

I see in your paper, that Col. Hill claims his "land has got sick of clover." If he will observe the following directions I think he can get a good stand of clover. Let him take the tubes off his wheat drill; attach the clover seeder on it; hitch his team to it and sow fifty pounds of *dissolved bone* to the acre, sowing the clover seed at the same time, and let the harrow follow the drill ; the bone will more than pay for itself in the increase of the wheat, and the clover will be stimulated with growth enough to stand the drouth; that is, if the ground was put in proper condition when the wheat was sowed.

I think it is a mistake to graze clover the first season that it is sowed. I have practised sowing my clover in this way and find it to be highly advantageous. I have raised as high as 67 heads of good, plump wheat from one single grain; and expect to do it again this year, and will send you samples, to show the farmers.

' If you could only get more of the farmers to deeply and thoroughly *pulverize* their ground before sowing their wheat, their complaints of small yields would be fewer. Before the season of sowing wheat I will send you the pattern of a harrow-tooth I am using with much satisfaction.

CHAS. A. EICHELBERGER.

Springfield Farm, Va.

NOTE.—We shall be pleased to hear from our friend at all times, and to receive the specimens of wheat, and the new harrow tooth; all for the benefit of our readers and our own pleasure.—*Editor Md. Farmer.*

Oatmeal in the Household.

In Great Britain children of all ranks are raised on an oatmeal diet alone, because it causes them to grow strong and healthful, and no better food can possibly be found for them. It is also quite as desirable for the student as for the laborer, and for the delicate lady as for her hard working sister; indeed, all classes would be greatly benefitted by its use, and dyspepsia, with all its manifold annoyances can be kept at a distance. Oatmeal is more substantial food, it is said, than veal, pork or lamb, and quite equal to beef or mutton, giving as much or more mental vigor while its great desideratum consists in one's not becoming weary of it, for it is as welcome for breakfast or tea as is wheat in Graham bread. It can be eaten with syrup and butter as hasty pudding, or with cream and sugar, like rice. It is especially good for young mothers upon whose nervous forces too great a demand has been made, and they lose the equilibrium of the system and become depressed and dispirited. Oatmeal requires to be cooked slowly, and the water should be boiling hot when it is stirred in.—*Baldwin's Monthly.*

HOGS AND MUD.—Although hogs love to wallow in the mire, when the weather is warm, still, they like clean, dry beds to sleep in, and will fat better in clean pens than dirty ones.

THE FREDERICK EXAMINER, one of the best country papers we receive, represents business and real estate sales as lively in that city.

GARDEN WORK.



GARDEN WORK FOR MAY.

Much work is to be done this month, and the gardener must be active and busy. The seeds sown and plants set out last month, will be large enough to be thinned and raked, and the planted crops such as cabbage, lettuce, &c., hoed deeply and raked. As soon as the ground gets warm, plant out cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, egg and pepper plants.

Sow or plant, Lima and other pole beans, string beans, corn, melons, canteloupes, squash, &c., and for a succession of crops, sow peas, spinach, radish, lettuce, and a small bed of turnips.

Nasturtium.—Plant both dwarf, and the tall growing, the latter to run on a trellis. They are both useful and ornamental.

Salsify, or Vegetable Oyster Plant.—It is a hardy biennial. It closely assimilates to the taste and flavor of the oyster when properly cooked, and by many esteemed a great luxury. The roots may be taken up in the fall and preserved in moist sand, or allowed to stand out all winter. The roots are better for standing out like the parsnip. In spring the young tops are sometimes used for greens. The flowers before it seeds are beautiful and a few roots can be transplanted in spring to the flower bed where it will be recognized as an ornamental flower by all, and some who have never seen it in bloom will pronounce it a rare and elegant plant. Cultivation the same as for carrots and parsnips.

Garden Herbs.—Sow the new double curled parsley and other culinary herbs.

Garden Fruit Department.—Small fruits may be planted up to the middle of the month. Watered and mulched when planted. Rake vigorously between the rows of strawberries and around raspberry, currant and gooseberry bushes, and give all a good mulch to keep the earth moist and the strawberries

from the earth that soils them during hard rain, or gritty from sand when the wind blows briskly. An excellent *mulch* is the grass from the lawn, spread around the plants and between the rows three or four inches deep.

Lawns.—Have the lawn carefully mown. The best implement is a Lawn-Mower. It saves time and the work is infinitely better done. A lawn or grass-walks neglected until the grass gets a foot high, bespeaks great want of taste and reprehensible negligence on the part of those whose duty it is to see after this matter. It brings great discomfort to those who have to approach the house or to walk in the paths among the flower beds, after a rain or before the dew is off.

Flower beds.—Trim the edges of these, neatly, and hoe or rake well the beds, so as to destroy the weeds and grass that will soon become very troublesome unless eradicated while in a tender state. The hardier sorts of plants may be set out, and tender ones taken from in-doors, and the pots they are growing in plunged in the beds to the level of the tops of the pots. Those that have filled the pots with roots, should be first changed to larger vessels. If the weather is dry, water plentifully after setting out. Sow seeds of annuals on the borders, such as Phlox-Drummondii, Sweet Alyssum, Mignonette, Portulaca, Flowering Bean, Convolvulus, Cypress Vine, &c.

Use *tobacco dust* freely on flowers or trees or shrubs that seem to be attacked by slugs or other insects, as it is a good remedy for the attacks of insects, and it is a prime fertilizer for most plants. It would be better to apply it as a preventive and not wait for the enemy to get a lodgement.

Autumn and Winter Crop.—Make nice, rich beds, and sow either in drills six inches apart, or broadcast, Brocoli, Cauliflower, Celery and Cabbage, to be ready to set out the first of July. Of cabbage for autumn, the Winningstadt is best, and for winter, Flat Dutch, Drum-head, Savoy and Brussels Sprouts or Scotch Kale. The Savoy is a tender, mild flavored and delightful cabbage. After sowing press the earth by tramping with the feet, or rolling well. Celery seed ought to be soaked and then well mixed with ashes, or plaster, so as to separate the seeds, before sowing. There are some new sorts of cabbage highly recommended, and it might be well to try one or more of them as a test of their merits. They might prove valuable.

Sweet Potatoes.—If sweet potatoes are not cultivated as a field crop on the farm, do by all means get plants of some good yellow variety and plant a bed or patch for the gratification of the young as well as old members of the family. Most people like them, women and children "adore them."

General Remarks.—Never let weeds or grass grow in the garden. Keep the hoe and rake moving, to destroy weeds and keep the soil light and friable. Often stirring the ground, to a good depth, encourages moisture and is a great ameliorator of the effects of drought. Manure the beds well and use bone dust, ashes, tobacco dust,—a cheap food for plants—soap suds, &c.—besides well rotted stable and barn yard manure. Plaster ought to be applied to the broad leaved plants. If the trees that bear stone-fruit are over loaded, by all means thin them this month, taking care to pull off the smallest and worse specimens and regulate the thinning according to the age and vigor of the tree, and size of the branch and the size of the fruit when matured. There is some art in this, and sound discretion to be used, but it ought to be done, as otherwise your trees will be injured and the fruit bad.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

CAMELLIAS.—In the last Report of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society we find many items of interest to the florists. In November last, M. P. Wilder exhibited a *seedling* Camellia in bloom, only two years and eight months from the germination of the seed. This was given as proof that seeding Azaleas and Camellias, by grafting on older wood, might be caused to bloom in much shorter time than has generally been thought, as he expressed two years ago.

ROSES.—The exhibition was reported to be the best Rose show ever made by the Society. The competitors for the Society's prizes were, Wm. Gray, Jr., James Comly, J. H. Woodford, Francis Parkman, Joseph Clark, and some others.

Honnewell special prizes—Wm. Gray, Jr., for best six variety showed the Etienna, Leveté Francis Michelin, Mad. Marius Cote, May Turner, and Rich Wallace. For the best twelve of any one variety, the Baronne Prevost, Superb.

Gray special prizes—For the best 12 of any one variety, by J. C. Chaffin, the Victor Verdier, splendid. The best six of any one variety, James Comley had the Baronne de Rothschild. Best 12 named varieties, by Francis Parkman, the Alfred Colomb, Annie Wood, Ardoise de Lyon, Charles Lefevre, Felix Genero, Glory of Waltham, La France, Leopold Premier, Marechal Vaillant, Margarite Dourbrain, Paul Nerore, and Perfection de Lyon, very fine.

HARDY AND INDIAN AZALEAS.—No better plants have been shown than those of J. B. Moore; one variety, the "Stella," was very fine, three feet high and well proportioned. John F. Rogers ex-

hibited the "Criterion," four feet high and ten feet in circumference, in fine condition. C. W. Atkinson, a splendid specimen, of the "Decora," six feet high and twelve in circumference; the contrast of healthy foliage with richly colored blooms made it an object of great beauty. C. M. Hovey exhibited a hybrid between *Azalea amara* and *Indica*; it was very fine and attractive.

RHODODENDRONS.—The display of Rhododendrons was very fine. To E. S. Rand, Jr. was awarded the Society's prize for the best hardy seedling Rhododendron, the variety named "Daisy Rand," and is hardy, handsome and desirable, of dwarf habit and spreading, very floriferous, rosy scarlet, and chocolate spotted, light centre.

Water Melons for Sugar.

Now is the time to plant your *melons* for a large crop. Select warm, sandy or loamy, rich land, in dry location; plow deep, manure well with fine manure and lime and ashes; when the plants are up sprinkle plaster on them, and strong liquid manure from the cow-stable on the hills.

When the melons are ripe select the large, early, finest ones for market, such as will sell at good prices. Take the others, wipe the dust off, peel off thin rind, cut open and take out the seeds, and press out the juice.

Boil it as you would cane or maple sap, not letting it scorch; when a little thick put in small kettles and put them in larger kettles, partly filled with water; let boil smartly, stirring all the time to let off steam as fast as possible, till very thick; then put in very shallow pans over gentle heat and stir till no steam rises and the syrup begins to granulate.

This course, skillfully pursued, will make good sugar. The later, very ripe ones, make sugar the easiest and best, the same as very ripe grapes make best wine or raisins.

The melon seeds may be saved and made into oil, which is nearly as good for table use as olive or sweet oil.

And the cake from which this oil is pressed is nearly as good for stock as flaxseed oil.

This makes a profitable melon crop.

THE way for a desolate old bachelor to secure better quarters, is to take a "better half."

"I live by my pen," said a poet wishing to impress a young lady. "You look as if you lived in it," was the reply.

Live Stock Register.

For the Maryland Farmer.

FEEDING LIVE STOCK.

BY D. Z. EVANS JR.

There is, of course, much in the *breed*, and it is equally true, that much good results from the introduction of a well bred, full blood male amongst a herd of common cattle; we are always pleased to read the history of the short horns, of the Berkshires and of other established breeds of animals, how they were, by careful handling, brought to their state of comparative perfection; yet in such accounts we see most, if not all of the stress put on the *breeding* part of it, whereas the more important part of *feeding* is apparently lost sight of, and figures but poorly in the detailed system of improvement.

We are firm believers in *breed*, in high bred stock, for such stock under the best treatment, is sure to return far more profit than can be realized from the same care, attention and food bestowed upon common or *scrub* animals. Improvement in live stock is due to the *food*, and by careful breeding we perpetuate that improvement. We, by liberal and judicious feeding, enable a lot of animals to develop fully; from this lot we select for breeders such animals as have answered most fully to the requirements and food, those which are the best developed; and by coupling these we perpetuate the desirable qualities of the parents with an increased tendency rapid and healthy to development. By continuing a systematic system of feeding, and coupling only those animals which show the desirable qualities in an eminent degree, we soon secure animals far above the average. This is how our different breeds of thoroughbred animals which we now have were produced.

There are very many who have not tested the merits of thoroughbred animals who argue the point as if the mere word *thoroughbred* seemed to imply that animals being so, should show the greatest gains from the least food consumed; else they were no better, in fact not so good, as the common stock of the country. This is an error, many persons are apt to fall into, and we have not the least doubt but that a man can obtain better results from common or scrub stock, which has, for generations, been accustomed to hunt the most of the living from ditch and fence corner than he could from fine stock, if both were fed equally sparingly, for the fine or thoroughbred stock was produced and established by a far different system of management.

But now slightly reverse this and the merits of the thoroughbred stock comes plainly to view.

Take a few of the common or scrub animals and then take an equal number of thoroughbred and well bred animals. Give both lots all they can eat of good, wholesome and nourishing food, given at regular intervals and note the results from time to time. At the end of six months or a year, sum up the gains of each lot and you will find that you have realized far more from the pure bred animals than you have from the mongrels. If you do not intend to give the best of food, care and attention, it would be far better for you to leave thoroughbred animals alone, for disappointment will almost invariably result, and the breeder of the animals will be loaded down with abuse, whereas the blame rests with the careless buyer himself. We always believe (here, in the case of swine and other animals intended for slaughtering purposes), that it pays best to have animals which will convert the greatest amount of food into flesh in a given time, for the longer the time the longer is the expense bill for attention and the loss in interest &c.

As soon as this point is thoroughly understood and impressed upon the minds of farmers, then will farmers begin to realize larger returns from stock feeding, and they will not be so slow, then, to appreciate the value of thoroughbred stock.

If the most profit is desired from the food consumed, it is absolutely necessary to have a careful as well as an experienced person to superintend the feeding, for the quantity of food will not, by itself, produce the best results. It must be supplied knowingly, must be given so the animals will eat it up with a relish, and it must be supplied at regular intervals. Never have great quantities of food given to animals at a feed, they will let a quantity of it remain in the trough, for they will soon become surfeited, will eat, very little for sometime afterwards, and much time is thereby lost in the feeding, for it takes considerable time for surfeited animals to entirely recover their former good health and sound, keen and hearty appetite, without which latter an animal does not return a very large percentage of profit, even during the prevalence of large and paying prices.

In feeding animals, the course pursued, as well as the kind of food to be given, is guided by the circumstances for which it is intended. For instance, when fattening swine for butchering purposes, we want strong concentrated food, taking care at the same time to supply enough laxative food to prevent constipation and its attendant evil consequences. In feeding swine for breeding purposes, we do not resort to the highly concentrated foods, but rely on good, wholesome laxative (to a moderate degree) food, such food as will give the most healthy development, and yet not have too great a tendency to produce fatty secretions. With other stock the rule is about the same, the variations being known to those who, by experience, are fitted to care for and feed cattle, sheep &c., to the best advantage with certain definite aims in view.

Burlington N. J.

WEANING COLTS.

The proper way to wean colts is not a matter of discussion to those who have learned by experience. If the colt and dam have been properly fed and managed, the weaning amounts to little more than keeping dam and colt apart, and the proper treatment of each.

Mares not used but suffered to run on the pasture through the season with their foals should be taken up prior to weaning time and fed, not only to stop the greater flow of milk produced by the grass, but that the colt may learn to eat before being thrown entirely on its own resources.

When weaning time arrives, separate the mare and colt, in such a manner as to make the separation complete and final. We would not keep the colt stabled longer than a week or ten days, during which time, if properly managed it can be turned to pasture, the feedidg, however, should continue regularly not less than twice each day. In this eorn region of ours, corn is the standard food for everything, and we use it indiscriminately for feeding, regardless of age, season or condition. If fat is the ultimatum of our desires, then we should feed in connection with a good assortment of food all the corn the colt will eat. If, however, we want bone, muscle, endurance, and long life, we had better use in connection with grass, good hay, sheaf oats, rye, barley, and wheat bran.

Horses are not sold like porkers or beef cattle, nor should they be raised and fed like them. Our best, hardiest, and most useful horses are raised in those sections of the country that produce the most grass, and it is stated as a fact that if these horses are removed to sections where good grass is the exception and not the rule that they rapidly deteriorate. The limestone sections of the United States are decidedly in advance of other sections in the production of fine horses. This indicates what is needed in growing the best possible horse, and sections not thus favored by nature can to a large extent supply the natural deficiencies by the selection of the feed best adapted to grow bone and muscle.

The colt should be kept in a thrifty growing condition, and should not be unnecessarily subjected to the changes of our very changeable winter weather. Were we raising horses for our own use, we would feed just as little grain as possible while growing, and if we could keep the condition and thrift up to our ideal with blue grass, timothy and clover, we would not use any grain.

During the rigors of winter when it is necessary to warm up the colts, grain feed with proper judgment will be found advantageous. A change of diet helps both appetite and digestion, and consequently the health of our stock, and is relished by the brute creation as much as by mortals more pretentious.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

NOTE.—It is far better to feed the colts oatmeal than corn, or any whole unground grain; and mares too, as to that matter.

SHEEP FOR WOOL AND MUTTON.

This is the way Joseph Harris puts it, in the *American Cultivator* :

What I want to say is, that if there is any better mutton in the world than this Cotswold grade, I would like to taste it.

It is fat, juicy, tender and high-flavored.

And now why cannot we raise such sheep by the million? We want combing wool, and here we have it in perfection. We want good mutton for home consumption and to ship to England, and we want to consume our hay and straw and grain on the farm to make money and manure, and this class of sheep will enable us to accomplish the object.

We are shipping beef to England, and as soon as our mutton is as good as our beef, we shall send carcasses of mutton in great numbers, and with great profit to the producer.

I do not know whether it is the case in the West, but here we can raise mutton, taking the wool into the account, much cheaper than beef. And in England good mutton commands a higher price than good beef. * * * * * *

There is no dearer meat, both to the consumer and the producer, than poor mutton.

The trouble hitherto has been that we have had no steady and sure market for choice mutton. But now that we can send fresh meat to England, there will be no difficulty in finding ready sale for all the good mutton we can raise.

And there is a constantly increasing demand for combing wool. Looking at the list of prices for wool in Boston for the last fifty years, we find the following figures :

	Fine.	Medium.	Course of combing.
1827.....	42c	32c	25c
1837.....	70	60	50
1847.....	47	40	30
1857.....	60	56	43
1867.....	60	50	65
1877.....	48	40	55

Last summer, when the dealers would not purchase medium wool except on their own terms, they were anxious to buy good combing wool. The truth is, that medium fine wool can be raised on cheap land, but combing wool cannot be produced to advantage except where there is a demand for mutton. This gives the farmers of New England and the older settled portions of the country a chance to keep sheep and enrich their land.

Wanted.—A gardener sufficiently muscular to “lay out” our grounds.

CATTLE FOOD—STRAW.

Experience teaches us that cattle thrive best on a mixed diet; all hay or all grain will produce less beef than hay and grain. The animal structure of the ox also demands bulk in food as well as richness; the feeding of concentrated food being only profitable so far as the animal assimilates it, beyond that simply increasing manure heap at a cost far beyond its value. The ox has approximately eleven lbs. of stomach with only two and one half lbs. of intestines to each one hundred lbs. of live weight; the sheep has less stomach and more intestines, giving a smaller percentage of digestive apparatus; while the pig, for every hundred lbs. of his live weight, has only one and a third lbs. of stomach to six lbs. of intestines.

A steer would thrive well on a bulk of straw, with a little oil meal, that would shrink a sheep and starve a pig. Pork can be produced from clear corn meal, while mutton requires greater variety of food, and beef cattle would become cloyed and diseased with its exclusive use. A thoughtful attention to these broad facts will change much injudicious feeding into cheaper meat production.

One element in the economy of cattle feeding, the use of straw as fodder, has not received the attention its importance demands. On no one point is the average farmer so incredulous as regarding the value of straw to feed, and on many farms the wasteful practice still exists of turning all the straw into the manure heap. If properly made and reasonably well cared for, a large portion of the straw, especially of the oat crop, should be used as cattle food. Early-cut straw is worth for feed two-thirds as much as hay, and is three times as valuable in feeding cattle as in the manure heap. Pea haulm and bean straw, especially if in the latter the pods are attached, are of still greater value. The best heat-producing foods are wheat, corn, oats, hay and bran. Oat straw will develop as large a percentage of heat as oil cake; bean straw even more; and in this respect, one hundred parts of oat straw are equal to eighty parts of hay. Straw is deficient in flesh-forming material, it requiring one hundred parts oat straw to equal sixteen parts good hay in this particular; yet, fed with cotton seed or linseed cake, it supplies what they lack in heat-giving and respiratory elements.

For the purposes of feeding out oat straw, our oat crop is allowed to over ripen, a large amount of its nutriment being lost without any corresponding benefit to the grain, which never improves after the upper portion of the stem has commenced turning yellow. Oats cut when just turning from

the green state, yield more grain as well as greater feeding value in straw. The narrow margins of profit in cattle feeding in this section of the country demand the closest economies in the food supply, and the most thorough investigations and experiments with an article of so little present market value, and one of such abundance with most farmers, as oat straw.—*American Cultivator.*

TO HAVE EARLY LAMBS.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentlemen* gives the following, as a means of promoting early lambs':

Feed the ewes on green rape, cabbage, or any of the brassica tribe of plants, he would find they would take the ram earlier. Or if he could procure rape cake ground, and mix with it a small portion of molasses, it might do even better. The molasses is to be used only to induce the ewes to eat the cake, of which they will soon become fond enough. Too liberal use of molasses would defeat the object, for although it is an excellent fattening agent, it acts in a directly contrary manner to the rape, on the generative organs of all animals. He should also use a young vigorous ram, and feed him well, only allowing him to be with the ewes for twelve hours out of the twenty-four. The ewes should be kept improving all the time the ram is with them, which will not only cause them to come in season quicker, but will also much increase the chance of twin lambs, if that is desired.

Rape can easily be grown in all Northern States and Canada, as I have tried. It may be sown at the rate of three or four quarts of seed to the acre broadcast, or a much better way would be to use Allen's Planet Jr. combined drill and wheel hoe. Then half that quantity of seed would do still better, sown in drills twelve inches apart, and this little implement works like a charm on such crops. Rape likes a good, rich, stiff soil, but will succeed on poorer land than most of the other cabbage family.

When the lambs come, the ewes will require generous diet to produce milk enough to quickly fatten the lambs. For this purpose, bran mash, corn meal and linseed meal are excellent, and also a liberal supply of cabbage. The Marblehead Mammoth is an excellent variety, being the largest, and a good keeper. It has done well with me in Canada, and is one of the best for warmer places.

A man who drinks lightly is now called "a Durham," because he is of the "short-horn breed."

THE DAIRY.

Feeding for Butter.

A reader of the *Tribune* wants to know "which is the best and cheapest feed for a butter dairy—wheat bran at \$1.25 per cwt., buckwheat bran at \$1 per cwt., or oats at fifty cents a bushel, in either case to mix with corn." Either kind of feed will make an excellent accompaniment of corn meal, and the difference between their respective values, by weight, is not very great. Oat meal will be the best, but the dearest, relative values considered. The nutritive value of the two kinds of bran is very nearly in accordance with their respective prices. A good many farmers place a higher value upon buckwheat bran than the above remark accords to it, but it has not proved, either in my experience or observation, to be equal to wheat bran. Buckwheat bran varies greatly in quality. That which is made up chiefly of the capsules or shells of the grain is of little value. The shells are about like chips in porridge. They serve only to fill up space, and are, moreover, a very harsh substance for the lining membrane of the alimentary canal, often scratching it so much as to produce serious irritation. In their natural condition they are indigestible and useless, and pass the animal in the same condition in which they were taken. If scalded they are readily dissolved and digested. When the hulls are sifted out, buckwheat bran is considered more valuable than the bran of wheat, but owing to difference in grinding, it has not the uniform value of wheat bran.—*Prof. L. B. Arnold.*

Our best experience and knowledge leads us to regard buckwheat as about the poorest food for dairy purposes of any; but that oat meal is much better, while wheat bran is better than either. Yet we know of no better feed for poultry than buckwheat meal, boiled and fed in the shape of thick mush.—ED. MARYLAND FARMER.

SINGULAR COWS.—The cows of Pittsfield and other Western Massachusetts towns are offering some curious problems to milkmen. One of John E. Kernochan's Alderneys recently gave birth to a calf, but after the calf was taken away not a drop of milk would the cow yield. But one day the cow was found lying down and three sucking pigs drawing all the nourishment they could hold, and to the evident pleasure of both, since which time the cow has done well enough.

Abijah Parks, of Dalton, undertaking to wean a calf, put it in a field with a yearling heifer and it brought her to her milk so that she was milked for a year before having a calf.

Orrin Hewlet, of Lee, also has a heifer which gave milk eighteen months before having a calf.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

The Philosophy of Milk.

Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant of Waushakum Farm, South Framingham, Mass., gave an address at the adjourned meeting of the American Dairymen's Association held on the Centennial grounds, Philadelphia, Oct. 17-18, his subject being "The Philosophy of Dairying." The *New York Times* quotes from this address as follows:

MILK.

"Milk is a complex fluid; it has structural and chemical affinities, and partakes in its reactions, after withdrawal from the udder, of those qualities which its constitution and history have impressed upon it. Its structural element is a morphological one; that is, it has a form. This form-element is mechanically mixed with the milk, and is subject, in its relations to the rest of the milk, to the physical laws attending a mechanical mixture. Its chemical elements are compounds formed from elements in a high combining number, and which are readily changed from slight causes which tend to disturb their equilibrium. One, the sugar of milk, is a crystalloid, while the nitrogenous materials are colloids; this is to say, that these two classes of bodies are acted on differently by animal membranes. The bulk of milk is composed of water, a substance rather inert in its chemical relations, transudative in its relation to membranes, and influential as a media for the proper distribution and dilution of the more sought for elements."

To the above Philosophical views of Dr. Sturtevant, the *N. Y. Times*, which does not seem to think much of the Doctor's philosophy, gives the following comments:

"The above scientific and *lucid* description of milk was recently given to a meeting of dairymen. Now that we know precisely what milk is, we do not wonder that we have wrestled with it so frequently or so unavailingly in the churn, nor that the average dairyman should be so pestered with its tricks; nor that the milkman should be astonished beyond measure at its 'disturbed equilibrium' in his cans; nor, seeing that 'its bulk is water,' that the housekeeper should be able so easily to discover in daily practice the absolute truth of the scientific discovery, and should look so vainly for 'the more sought for elements' in their 'high combining number,' which changes so readily as to evade detection. Seriously, we notice this to protest upon the part of dairymen against such incomprehensible jargon as this being offered to them as science. Such efforts as this to popularize science are worse than useless."

Now, since milk is a "structural complex fluid," and a "morphological element with crystalloid colloids," is it any wonder that babies and calves have cramps? Equal to the *solanum tuberosum*.

CHURNING.—From a practical article, by J. T. Ellsworth, in the *Scientific Farmer*, we take this:

Churning cream to make good butter is not so simple a process as some may think. It must be churned at the proper time and at the proper temperature, and the churn should be stopped as soon as the cream has broken, but before the butter has gathered in large balls,

In warm weather it is of great importance to watch the process closely, and to notice *just when* this change is to take place,

At this time add enough cold water (not ice) to reduce the temperature of the mass to about 56 or 58 degrees and then complete the churning, which will be as soon as the butter is in a *granulated form*, with particles about the size of peas.

Then draw off the buttermilk and throw in cold water, repeating the washing until the water drawn off appears clear. Now take out a layer of butter into the tray, and sprinkle on finely sifted salt, at the rate of about an ounce of salt to the pound (more or less, as consumers may wish). Then take out another layer of butter, and salt as before.

After the butter is salted, set it away for about three hours for it "to take salt" and "harden the grain." Now work it a little with a wooden paddle, and set it away again until next day, when it will need but little working before preparing it for market.

DISEASE IN MILK.—A physician reports to the Burnley, England, board of guardians a serious outbreak of typhoid fever "in consequence of the consumption of infected milk." The circumstances, as narrated him, were as follows: A farmer who kept twenty-one milch cows, and supplied fifty families in two villages with milk, had typhoid fever in his house unknown to the sanitary authorities of district, who consequently took no precautions against the spread of the disease. He continued to supply his customers daily, date of the report (January 10th) there were in the two villages fifty-five persons sick with the typhoid fever—all in families supplied with milk from this farm, and there were no other cases in the district. Of the fifty families receiving milk from this farmer, thirty-seven had members down with the fever; the great majority being children or young persons. The type of fever was a mild one; but half the cases were yet in the incipient stages, and one woman had died. No suspicion had been entertained of the source of the epidemic, which was accidentally discovered by the physician two days before he made this report.—*Boston Adv.*

WHERE TO SET MILK.—There is no doubt that immense quantities of poor butter are made from the milk set in improper places. The kitchen pantry, the living room, and the cellar used to store vegetables and other family supplies, will impart peculiar taints to the milk and cream, in such a degree as to be destructive to flavor, even though the butter in other respects be skilfully handled. Dairy room so situated as to catch the odor from the pig sty, the cess pool, or other decomposing filth, cannot be used for making good butter. There should be a freedom from filth and impurities of every description about the milk-house, and the milk should be delivered by the milkers in an ante-room, or some point outside the milk-room, and from thence conveyed to the place where it is to be set for cream. In this way the fumes and the litter from the stable may be kept from the milk-room.—*Practical Farmer.*

AGE OF COWS.—Cows live an average age of about fifteen years. Rings on the horns tells the number of their days. At four years old a ring is formed at their roots and every succeeding year another is added.

Thus, by allowing three years before their appearance, and counting the number of rings, the age of the animal is known. It is well for certain members of the human race losing their bloom, who are somewhat sensitive on the question of age, that there are no definite appearances added with annual precision to their cheeks, revealing to the eye what they keep from the ear.—*Exchange.*

TIMELY.—Will our friends please bear in mind that we cannot find their names on our subscription book *unless they give us their post-office address*. We have this morning five postals requesting changes, and in no case is the address given by the writer or the post-office legible.

Every letter written on business ought to give post-office address in full; but especially ought this to be done when writing to a newspaper.—*Virginia Patron.*

HIGHLY USEFUL.—The *Journal of Chemistry*, says that *hot alum water* is the best insect destroyer known. Put the alum into hot water and let it boil till all the alum is dissolved; then apply it with a brush to all cracks, closets, bedsteads, and other places, where any insects are found. Ants, bed bugs, cockroaches, and creeping things are killed by it; while it has no danger of poisoning the family, or injuring property.

The Poultry House.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Management of Fowls.

In my experience with different kinds of fowls. I find it requires good care, cleanliness and judgment in the management of all domestic animals; and fowls are no exception.

In the first place, don't imagine your fowls must scratch for their living; roost on trees, or fence, or in the wagon shed, over the wagon, for in the end you will have a lot of good-for-nothing fowls, and a dirty wagon as well, which is no pleasant job to clean.

But erect a nice house, only costing a trifle, but, if properly managed, will bring you a handsome profit annually.

Secondly, in choosing fowls, get some pure breeds which will cost a little more at first, but you will be amply paid in the end; common fowls are of little value, compared to those that have been bred to a standard, not only in color but also to flesh and egg production.

Thirdly, as to which breed is the best; there are a great many valuable breeds; if you wish large, sober, gentle birds, get the Brahmas, and treat them right and you will be pleased; if you wish active non-sitters get the Leghorn, or Spanish, or Houdan; I prefer the first, as they seem to be made of eggs, and are willing to give them out if properly treated; and they make nice pets also; I hold it is the rankest folly to say that any fowl cannot be tamed and made to be friendly and gentle if properly treated; some fanciers hold that it is an injury to your fowls to take strange visitors into your yards and pens; I think such are inexperienced, in that important respect; I think it is much better if they are kept tame and gently treated.

I can go into my yards and pick up any fowl I wish, Brahma or Leghorn, pat them on the back, rub down their feathers, and some of them take the pains to give me a sign of their approval by a little song of their own native language.

Fourthly, be sure to give a variety of food, unless you are willing to subsist on one diet yourself. Feed little corn whole; but screenings, buckwheat, oats and scraps of meat and vegetables, giving all they will eat up clean, and be willing to look around for a little more; in my experience the larger ones eat but little more than the smaller breeds, when full grown.

Finally, I will say a word about setting hens. Use none but thoroughly whitewashed, clean boxes, not too small, and sprinkle a little of the

white preparation in the nest, as per note on page 110, of the April number, of this valuable Magazine. If you set your hens separate from those laying, they will do much better; try to set two at a time, so as to set one the second time; it will do her no harm, if grain, dust box, and good fresh water be at her command; if you wish to move or change a nest, be very quiet and easy in your movements, and if your hen tries to get off don't strike her and let her flutter over the nest and get excited; but rub her on the back gently and call her pet names, and show her an egg, make a noise in the eggs by gently rubbing them together, but be very careful or you may break them: by doing this, you will cause her to nestle down and all will be right, and you may steal noiselessly away.

A few words on raising chicks may not be out of place another time.

A. W. FRIZZELL.

Pikesville, Md. April 9th, 1877

POULTRY IN FRANCE.—One of the secrets of the prosperity of the French people, and their ability to bear even the heaviest burdens without giving way under them, is the extraordinary thoroughness with which they cultivate their farms, vineyards, and orchards, and the profit which they contrive to obtain from the very smallest and seemingly insignificant products. We find a fresh exemplification of this in some figures lately published in a French paper, exhibiting the extent and profits of chicken raising. There are in France about 40,000,000 hens, valued at \$20,000,000. One-fifth are marketed yearly for the table, bringing about \$4,000,000. The annual production of chickens is 80,000,000, worth in the city markets \$24,000,000; and \$2,000,000 are added for the extra value of capons and fatted hens. The production of eggs is estimated at \$48,000,000, making the total value of the eggs, chickens, capons, and hens, annually sold, about \$80,000,000, or \$2.25 to every man, woman, and child, in France. The power to make much out of a little, and to live frugally on small means, and with limited resources to fall back on, is the distinguishing trait of the French people, and one well worth emulating.

THE FARMER should sow his P's, keep his U's warm, hive his B's, kill off the J's, remember what he C's, take care of his V's pay all he O's, teach his wife not to T's, and take his E's.

A CORRESPONDENT entered an office, and accused the compositor of not having punctuated his communication, when the typo earnestly replied, "I'm not a pointer; I'm a setter."

HENS vs. HOGS.

Poultry has its fanciers and swine its breeders. Those engaged with either branch of the business are largely enthusiasts in that direction, and to an extent ride a hobby. This is natural and right; in fact, were it not so, the results attained would never be reached; it is the thorough wedding to an occupation that makes it succeed; but the question is, are the hens supplanting the hogs? It is stated on authority that if the same quantity of food is given out to chickens that is fed to a hog, they will produce more pounds, and return greater margins of profit, than the pork, to say nothing of the eggs produced, and they will pay for the grain. Pigs, from the time they breathe, are calling for food, and the amount consumed in growing and fattening a hog is surprising. Then, when we consider the immensely greater value there is in poultry meat over pork for producing brain and muscle, is it not fair to suppose that poultry will make inroads upon pork, and we shall find ourselves feeding more on chickens and less on piggy.—*Exchange.*

Value of Poultry Manure.

From actual experiment, we found that the dropping from four Brahmas, for one night, weighed, in one case, exactly one pound; and in another, more than three-quarters, an average of nearly four ounces each bird. By drying, this was reduced to not quite one and a half ounces. Other breeds make less; but allowing only one ounce per bird daily, of dry dung, fifty fowls will make, in their roosting house alone, about ten cwt. per annum of the best manure in the world. Hence fifty head of poultry will make more than enough manure for an acre of land, 7 cwt. of guano being the usual quantity applied per acre, and poultry manure being even richer than guano in ammonia and fertilizing salts. No other stock will give an equal return in this way, and these figures demand careful attention from the large farmer.—*Illustrated Book of Poultry.*

WHAT IS CHEAP TRANSPORTATION?—Three members of the Legislature shipped ninety sacks of salt from Richmond to Wytheville, to Lynchburg *Via* canal and from thence by rail.

Charges per sack from Richmond to Lynchburg, one hundred and forty-eight miles, including tolls, freights, loading on boat here and off at Lynchburg and on the cars at that point, were sixteen cents. Charges on railroad without handling from Lynchburg to Wytheville, one hundred and thirty miles, fifty-five cents, per sack or about three and a half times more for the lesser distance and no handling. This looks like settling the question of cheap transportation in favor of water over rail.—*Virginia Patron.*

GAPES IN POULTRY.

In a recent conversation with an experienced chicken grower, he informed us that he had been very successful in conquering that precarious disease in his young fowls by the application of air-slaked lime. As soon as a manifestation of gapes in his fowls appears, he confines his chickens in a box, one at a time, sufficiently large to contain the bird, and places a coarse piece of cotton or linen cloth over the top. Upon this he places the pulverized lime, and taps the screen sufficiently to cause the lime to fall through. This lime dust the fowl inhales and causes it to sneeze, and in a short time the cause of the gapes is thrown out in the form of a slimy mass or masses of worms, which had accumulated in the windpipe and smaller air vessels. This remedy he considers superior to any he has ever tried, and he seldom fails to effect a perfect cure. He has abjured all those mechanical means by which it is attempted to dislodge the Entozoans with instruments made of whalebone, hog's bristles, or fine wire, alleging that people are quite as certain to push the gape worms further down the throat of the fowls as to draw them out.—*Lancaster Farmer.*

Chickens Fit to Eat.

Don't imagine that it makes no difference how your Thanksgiving chickens have been brought up. Don't suppose that they will be good anyhow.—Chickens have been carefully dressed, deliciously stuffed, and yet they were not fit to eat. There was a flavor about them that no soda rinsing could cleanse, and no seasonings conceal. These were chickens that had picked up their living around pig sties and other unclean places.

A chicken may be spoiled in dressing it to cook. If killed with a full crop, and allowed to lie for hours before it is "drawn" (or relieved of its internal organs), it gets an unpleasant flavor. Fowls should be caught and shut up without food for twelve hours or more before they are beheaded.—the crop and intestines will be greatly lessened.—Old fowls are not necessarily tough—only cook them long enough. They are more tender twenty-four hours after they are killed than if eaten immediately.—*Poultry Journal.*

If your neighbor's hens are troublesome,
And steal across the way,
Don't let your angry passions rise!—
Fix a place for them to lay.

THE APIARY.

THE HONEY BEE.

In an able paper, read before the Agricultural Congress, by R. H. Allen, Esq., he said of this useful worker, the following:

"Time, long before and ever since the bee made its honey in the carcass of the dead lion slain by Sampson, has noted this useful insect in its companionship with man, as well as in its wild habitations in the wilderness, where climate and vegetation favored its propagation. It furnishes us the most luxuriant of sweets in its honey, and an important commodity in its wax. The aggregate annual commercial value of our bee-product is probably hundreds of thousands of dollars, being difficult to determine, from the want of current statistics; yet all who choose to investigate may be assured of their importance. Of bee literature, we have public journals devoted to their interest, many volumes of printed books, and divers essays in our agricultural periodicals; and were I to relate the annals of my own personal companionship with them for many years past, I should only tell you that at the present day they are both as untamed and uncivilized as when the great patriarch, Noah, let them out of his ark to forage among the renewed plants and flowers at the foot of Mount Ararat.—They live, propagate, and subsist by *instinct* alone, and not all the invention or ingenuity of man has been able to improve their qualities, to change their habits, or invite them to a companionable docility. Even the importation of the superior Italian bee into our country in late years, and crossing them on our common stock, has not perceptibly improved their habits. So, lovable as they may be in sweets and wax, they are barbarians now, as ever, and equally at home in the hollow trunk of a tree in the wildest forest, as in their hives amid the flowers of the field, or the refinements of the mossy highly cultivated orchard and garden."

BEES.—Bees are necessary to some kinds of clover. Thus 20 heads of Dutch clover yielded 2,290 seeds; but 20 other heads, protected from bees, produced not one. Humble bees, alone visit red clover, as other bees cannot reach the nectar. The number of humble bees in any district depends greatly on the number of field mice, which destroy their combs and nests. More than two-thirds of them are thus destroyed all over England. Near villages and small towns nests of humble bees are more numerous than elsewhere, which is attributed to the cats killing the mice.—*Darwin's Origin of Species*,

BEE STING.—A few summers since, when I was staying in Shropshire, one sabbath afternoon, passing through a quiet village, I saw what to me was a joyous sight. In a cottage garden, under the superintendence of a aged widow, I was gratified by seeing, arranged in two rows, not less than forty strong stocks of bees. Looking over the hives without interfering with them, a bee, perhaps previously angered from some cause without any warning stung me just below the right eye. The old lady at once went into her cottage, and bringing out her hair-oil bottle, commenced to rub the oil gently into the wound, with the happiest result—in fact I was overjoyed to feel the pain almost instantly cease and the part was not afterward at all inflamed or swollen. Previous to this a bee's sting had a dreadful effect upon me—the swelling and smarting were both frightful.

Ever since this, to me, well-remembered sabbath, I have, when stung, without loss of time, removed the sting and applied plain *olive oil*, rubbing it gently into the part, then a small quantity of tincture of arnica, and although I have since been stung hundreds of times I have not in a single instance, after applying the oil and arnica, experienced the slightest inconvenience, so that a bee sting to me is now a matter of no moment, for the part although very painful for a few seconds, never inflames; the pain, as if by magic, disappears, and I cannot perceive the slightest swelling.—*London Gardeners' Chronicle*.

MIGNONNETTE FOR BEE FORAGE.—There is no plant within the range of our knowledge as valuable for bee forage as Mignonnette, and why? It will keep in bloom year after year if not disturbed by frost, and it gives a longer period of usefulness than any other plant. It gives more blossoms in a given space, and therefore gives more forage than any plant we have seen. Honey made from this plant has the most delicious fragrance of any we have ever tasted, and where it has been tested in market is far ahead of that produced from other plants.—*Bee-Keeper's Magazine*.

HAVE A CARE, MAN.—The other day, when walking down Holliday Street, we noticed a countryman driving along rapidly in a light wagon; when he attempted to turn suddenly out of or across the railroad track slantwise one hindwheel of his wagon was snapped off, the axel being broken off at the shoulder, from being cramped against the iron rail of the track; all drivers will be wise to have a care, when they swing rapidly across the rails, diagonally,

A POTATO CROP.

A young correspondent in the *Rural New Yorker*, gives the following :

I send you an account of my success with one-half acre of potatoes during the past season, as follows :

EXPENSE.

Plowing and harrowing, . . .	\$1 50
Marking and planting, . . .	1 50
Seed, 11½ bus., at 25c. per bus., . .	2 87
Cutting seed, . . .	50
Plaster and ashes and applying, . .	1 00
Cultivating and hoeing twice, . .	3 00
Digging, . . .	5 00
Paris green and applying, . . .	75
Interest on land at \$125 per acre, .	4 37

Total expense, . . . \$20 49

RECEIPTS.

Potatoes (large), 95 bus., at 75c. per bus.	\$71 25
Potatoes (small), 10 bus., at 25c. per bus.	2 50

Total receipts, . . . \$73 75

Profit, . . . \$53 26

Planted May 15. The seed used varied in size from medium to large potatoes. I cut the medium-sized potatoes once in two, and the large ones into pieces containing from two to four eyes each.—Planted two pieces in each hill ; covered about two inches deep. The rows were 3½ feet apart, with hills 2 feet apart in the row. A portion of the land received a dressing of plaster and ashes, applying a handful to each hill when the tops were 3 or 4 inches high, and before hoeing. Cultivated and hoed them twice, and at the last hoeing hilled them up, making the hills 6 or 8 inches high. The drought was very severe through the month of August. I think this diminished the yield fully one-third.

It will be seen that the profit* is at the rate of over \$100 per acre, and the cost of raising, 19½ cents per bushel. The variety grown was the Peerless.

YOUNG FARMER.

This is a creditable achievement, but it is safe to remark that stated is about \$3.00 less than the same can generally be done for ; but even at that, it is a highly profitable operation. We know, of course, the land was rich and in high tilth.

“What are you fencing in that lot for, Pat? A herd of cattle would starve to death on that land.” “And sure, your honor, wasn’t I fencin’ it to kape the poor bastes out ov it.”

The owner of a large herd of Shorthorns, in the county of Perth, England, states he has lately lost £50,000 by the foot-and-mouth disease.

Large Yield of Corn.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE BUSHELS PER ACRE.—

Dr. Nichols, of the *Boston Journal of Chemistry*, states the following experiment in raising corn on green sward, turned over in the fall of 1868: In the spring barn-yard manure was spread on the furrows at the rate of four cords per acre, and harrowed in, and the soil finely pulverized with a Geddes harrow. Hills were marked three feet apart, and a handful of “bone and ashes mixture” (see Report for 1869, p. 431.) was placed in each, a slight covering of earth being then drawn over, and five kernels of corn dropped upon it. The growth of the field was so luxuriant that it was cultivated but once after planting. The stalks bore two or three ears each, many of them fourteen inches long, and the kernels were large and full, and of a brilliant yellow. The product was 105 bushels of shelled corn per acre.

Agricultural Congress in France.

The National Agricultural authorities of France invite all agricultural societies and nations in the world to meet them in Paris, at the time of their International Exposition, in 1878; to examine and deliberate upon all questions of interest to this class ; and to hear reports upon what advance has been made and what progress is making, in all the Nations ; a good idea, certainly ; we will give more details next month.

MATERNAL TENDERNESS.—A sparrow, which had built her nest on the thatch-roof of a house, was observed to continue her regular visits long after the time when the young birds had taken their flight. This unusual circumstance continued throughout the year, and in the winter, a gentleman who had long observed her, determined on investigating its cause. He therefore mounted a ladder, and found one of the young ones detained a prisoner by means of the worsted which formed part of the nest having become accidentally twisted round his leg. Being thus incapacitated from procuring its own subsistence, it had been fed and sustained by the continued exertions of its mother. If this be mere instinct, what is reason?—*Ex.*

So, whilst the rambler is in a delightful humor with himself, the world and the rest of mankind, he will be off to enjoy one of those happy episodes he loves so well—

“A delicate, sly flirtation,
By the light of a chandelier;
With music to play in the pauses,
And nobody very near.”

THE
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D. Lawrence,	Dr. J. E. Snodgrass,
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To Farmers, Everywhere.

We are still receiving clubs of subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER; price, five or more, in Clubs, \$1.00 each; and to the P. M. or other person, who sends us five names with *five dollars*, we will send the sixth copy free; and any old or new subscriber who will send us, within this month, \$2.50 shall have *two copies* for the present year, 1877.

New subscribers can have back numbers so as to have the volume complete.

The appearances of general European War is enhancing the price of farm produce, and all farmers, who are situated so as to do it, will do well to raise all the *exportable stuffs* they can, and consume at home what can't be safely exported.

CELERY.—We cannot too earnestly urge every family to raise or have plenty of this most healthful plant. It is yet good time to plant the seed, in fine, rich, warm soil, and get good healthy plants; next month, we will give suggestions for the further culture; by all means keep down the weeds, and the earth well stirred.

BOYS, LOOK HERE.

There are many little luxuries in the city which boys *like* to have, and *can* have at home, with a little industry and ingenuity.

There are nice balls of red and yellow *popt-corn*, in the windows of candy shops, which look very inviting, and are very palatable; but which you can raise and make at home, just as good, if you will make the efforts faithfully.

Begin *now*, and plant a few rows of *pop-corn*, in nice, rich ground; dress the soil with ashes and well-rotted manure; keep it nicely hoed and clean of weeds; a little care and work, of this kind, will afford you several bushels of ears of nice pop-corn; even a couple dozen of good hills would give you a bushel of years.

When it is harvested, take it into the house, where it will soon dry and remain so; all the better, if you have surplus, above your own wants, to sell and get a little change, with which to buy other things.

Then, when you want to enjoy it, *pop* a quantity, as may be needed, for yourselves, or your little parties, or the family.

If you want to make it sweet, to taste better, and to ornament, you can do so in this way: Spade or plow a small piece of ground, deeply and fine; make it rich and mellow; plant a few rows of *basano beets*, or blood beets; then hoe and weed them well; also, in the same manner, a few rows of *golden carrots*, and take good care of them. But first, prepare all of your seed, corn, beets and carrots, by soaking them a few hours in *salt brine*; then dry them in lime or plaster; this treatment makes them come up quicker and grow faster and better.

In the fall and winter, when you *pop* your corn, wash one or two nice red beets, all clean, boil them, then squeeze out the red juice, dissolve a good lot of sugar in it, to make thick as thin molasses; then stir it into your *popt* corn, and you will have a delicious, rosy dish; do the same with your yellow carrots, and you can make delicious golden, yellow, *popt* corn balls.

But, to avoid buying sugar to sweeten your *popt* corn, and save the money at home, you can, with your own work and ingenuity, also make your own sweetening, even better, than the "boughten" molasses, in this way: Find a small patch of warm, dry, loamy ground, spade or plow it nicely, rake in, thoroughly, a lot of hog and hen manure, with ashes or lime; then make a few slightly raised hills, about six feet a part; in these plant 3 to 5 seeds each, of peerless or mountain sprout *water melons*, first soaking the seed as above, and dry in lime or

plaster; when, up tend them carefully, sprinkle dry hen manure about the plants, letting two grow in the hill; when ripe, dead ripe, peel off the outer skin, take out the seeds; cut up and squeeze out the juice; boil it carefully, not allowing it to scorch, till it has a very little thickness; then mix with the beet, or the carrot juice; put it on your pop corn, and it will taste richer and more pleasantly than your store sugar sweetening; besides, there is no poison in the colors.

Now, you see, boys, in this operation, you will have the triumph, as well as the honor, of having a splendid and palatable luxury, all from your own industry and ingenuity; the honor of making, at home, a better article than you would buy at the store; besides, saving the money in your own pocket, and being much more independent than the boy who has to buy every thing, and knows nothing.

This is all easily done, with a little forethought and industry; this is the time to begin operations; and in the next number of the MARYLAND FARMER we will tell you how to do some more nice creditable things, for your honor and profit.

Farmers' Rights.

We find in the Rockville Newspapers, the following of interest to our farmers, living near the District of Columbia:

At the Farmer's Convention held at Sandy Spring in January last, the undersigned was requested to ascertain what rights farmers possess in the Washington Market, as to selling meat of any description of their own raising, in less quantity than by the quarter. He has given the subject pretty careful attention, including an examination of the charter of the company, with the aid of an able legal friend of his, and he is now prepared to submit the following report, viz;

[Here follows a recitation of the ordinances examined by Mr Hallowell, and he closes his report with the following:]

From the foregoing report, it appears plain, that farmers can sell meat *of their own raising*, in any quantity and in any way from their vehicles or from stalls without being subjected to the restrictions heretofore imposed upon them by the Market Company and as a substantial evidence of this opinion, my lawyer friend obligates himself to defend any farmer free of expense, should he be arrested by the said company for violating their unauthorized rules and restrictions as to the rights of farmers.

JAMES HALLOWELL.

DRUID HILL PARK.

This popular resort is now very attractive, and the past half month has seen several gala days there; on Sunday the 15th many thousands of people, and many hundreds of carriages, visited the grounds. The Spring buds are bursting and leaves peeping out ready to put rich, refreshing summer costumes on the forests.

Capt. Cassell, the able Superintending Engineer and Landscape gardener, is making desirable improvements, such as grassing terraces, smoothing, plowing and sowing new fields and rough places with grass-seeds, and nicely rolling them to level surfaces, and trimming the trees and shrubbery; he is doing really nice work, for the pleasure and profit of the people and place.

There are fine flocks of sheep and lambs grazing and cleaning the lawns and fields.

Ducks, geese and swans float upon the lakes in contented delight, while many pairs of sweet "Duckies" and "Gooses," meander the shores looking on and whispering soft words, with equal enjoyment. The children find much amusement in watching the birds, monkeys and rabbits, in their pretty house.

The Maryland Centennial Building is in place, which adds a new attraction, and its surroundings are being made pleasant and showy.

Large and dense cities cannot have too many of these handsome, healthful parks, as breathing places for the people; and Baltimore needs one or two more, in sections of the city where, as yet, there are none; and the earlier they are purchased and fitted up the cheaper they will be, as property is constantly enhancing in price in the suburbs.

ACCOMAC CO., VA.—Some time ago we had a pleasant visit from J. J. Blackstone Esq. of Accomac C. H., Virginia. Mr. B. is one of the most energetic and intelligent farmers and fine stock breeders, in that old State, especially of good horses. He represents farming and other business in healthy advancing condition, in that section. We are always gratified by such visits from our subscribers, and hope to receive them frequently, as well for their conversation as the payment for the FARMER.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—We have received the "Old Reliable" for April, 1877. It has an able corps of editors and contributors. The pages are well filled with instructive and interesting reading pertaining to the house and farm. Now is a good time to subscribe.—*Frederick Examiner.*

Maryland Agricultural College.

MANAGEMENT ARRANGED.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Maryland Agricultural College was held at Guy's Hotel, Baltimore, April 11th, and a board of trustees was appointed. Mr. O. H. Williams presided, and Mr. Gilmor Hoffman was secretary. A determined effort was made to secure a change in the management of the college by the election of a new board of trustees, and the meeting lasted nearly five hours. It was charged that the college had departed from its proper and useful course, and that instead of being an agricultural school, was a preparatory college for West Point and the Naval Academy. The State gives \$6,000 annually and the United States \$6,000, to sustain the college for its agricultural features, for the benefit the State would derive in the advancement of agriculture.

The most of the time was consumed in a careful canvass of the stock, which was mostly voted by proxy. The canvass was entrusted to a committee comprising Messrs. Allen, Bowie, Davis, John Merryman and Prof. J. D. Warfield. Nearly six thousand shares were voted.

Before the balloting for a board of trustees began Prof. Warfield, who fills the chair of English literature at the college, said he understood that a canvass had been made throughout the State and city against the present administration because agriculture had not been taught. The present administration had succeeded in nearly wiping out the indebtedness of the college in the sum of \$13,000, and then was it to be turned down because it had not prosecuted agricultural experiments, without money? If the administration were sustained it was the design of President Parker to give attention to such experiments.

Mr. J. Howard McHenry said he would like to hear something of a report of the condition of the college. He had been opposed to the present management, but if it had succeeded in clearing off the debt he would not insist on a change of administration.

Mr. Warfield in response said there are sixty-eight students enrolled, and out of this number there are ten or eleven—never over twelve—who are studying for West Point and the Naval Academy. The revenue from the special instruction nearly runs the college. There are fifty-seven students at present.

Mr. Charles B. Calvert spoke as a stockholder and graduate of the college. He denied being a party to a canvass of proxies. He at one time held the view that with a mathematician at the

head of the college agriculture would be taught, but he had abandoned that idea. He had suggested agricultural experiments and an analysis of the soil, but no notice was taken of it. The scheme for wiping out the indebtedness was arranged before the board was elected.

Agriculture should be the prominent feature of this college, and not the training of students for West Point or the Naval Academy. The chair of mathematics filled by the president cost \$3000, with assistants at \$1,100 and \$780, while the professor of agriculture got but \$600 and his board, and the professor of chemistry the same.

The election resulted in the reappointment of the present trustees, excepting that W. B. Sands takes the place of Charles B. Calvert. The board now is as follows: Gen. E. L. F. Harcastle, Talbot county; Jas. T. Earle, Queen Anne's; Ezra Whitman, Baltimore city; Allen Dodge, District of Columbia; W. H. Tuck, Annapolis; John F. Lee, Prince George's, and W. B. Sands. The vote was 3,848 against 2,078 for the defeated ticket.

The shares were voted, by A. B. Davis 860; N. B. Worthington 365; C. B. Calvert 1193; Prof. Warfield 70; W. B. Sands 365; Dr. J. M. Worthington 20; John Merryman 520; O. H. Williams 1520; President Parker 360; Gilmor Hoffman 100; Ezra Williams 46, and Eugene Calvert 352.

At the instance of J. Howard McHenry the new board were instructed to make practical and experimental agriculture the leading feature in the education of the college at the earliest possible moment.—*Baltimore Sun*.

OUR AMERICAN FARMERS.—Some time ago we received and noticed a new Agricultural Journal published in New Jersey, entitled "The New Jersey Agriculturist." It has since been moved to New York City, and the name changed to *The New Jersey Agriculturist and Our American Farmers*, not very short, to be sure, but it is a very handsome 16 page monthly journal, liberally illustrated with fine cuts.

Published by C. J. and F. H. Westall, at 20 Corland Street, price, 50 cents per annum.

FERTILIZER MANUFACTURERS.—Mr. R. W. L. Rasin, the Secretary of the Association, says the Semi-Annual meeting of the National Association of Chemical Fertilizer Manufacturers will take place at 12 o'clock, on May 10th inst., at Raine's Hall, Corner of Baltimore St. and Post-office Avenue, in this city, and urges a general attendance as important matters will be considered.

Flowers and Fruits.

One of those pleasant afternoons last month, we enjoyed a rich treat, on invitation, in visiting the fine garden and conservatory of Mr Edward Kurtz, in Lexington Street; there we saw the finest *Camellias* and *Azaleas* that it has been our fortune to look at in a long time.

Mr. Kurtz has some splendid specimens, of both of these sorts, seedlings of his own raising, which are now in rich, fresh bloom; he has also some *Japan Azaleas*, the most beautiful we ever saw anywhere, of several colors, pure golden yellow, flame orange, and tints between them; he has other rare flowers, production, of his own care and culture, including *Cacti*.

His azaleas include the beautiful *Mollis* sorts.

Azaleas are valuable and convenient as, with proper care and treatment—forcing and retarding—a conservatory may be kept bright and elegant in blooms, from beginning of January to the last of June; cold rooms and hot rooms in the conservatory will do it. Mr. Kurtz also has in his garden, fine pear and Magnolia trees, with other fruit and ornamental trees.

These are the delights and comforts he now, in advanced age, enjoys, the reward of his early taste and care devoted to their production, as he was many years ago devoted to them.

We also spent a very pleasant hour among the plants and flowers in the Green Houses of the veteran John Feast, where we saw some rare and beautiful plants and flowers of different kinds, among them two varieties, bright, scarlet, and light purple *Ingas*, from Brazil, than which we have seldom seen anything more elegant—they are new to us.

We never get tired of seeing handsome flowers and fine fruits, any more than we would of the company of beautiful women and pretty babies.

How to Raise Fruits.

We have received a handsome little book, entitled "a handbook of Fruit Culture," from the publishing house of S. R. Wells & Co., New York, and written by Thomas Gregg; price retail, \$1.00

It gives the latest and most approved modes of culture, and a list of most desirable sorts and varieties of large and small fruits. From only a hasty reading we think it a useful volume.

FOR EUROPE.—The British steamship Lake Champlain, Captain Bernsen, of the Beaver line, cleared last month for Liverpool with a large general cargo, including 57,936 bushels corn, 266,150 pounds bacon.

FLORIDA.

We have, from time to time, as convictions prompted published suggestions in regard to Florida; and we here insert an article from the *James Islander*, in regard to sections of that state:

"Jacksonville is at present the point, and Saint John's River the principal attraction known to tourists and others coming to the state. Hundreds go there who leave the State in disgust, presuming what is shown on the eastern coast is a fair sample of Florida.

Now, if our friends are really in earnest about building up the State, suppose they send some of these parties over to Tallahassee and down to the gulf; give us an opportunity to show them some of the splendors of the South. Let them enjoy the many and varied landscapes which abound in Middle Florida, and see soil that easily produces fifty bushels of corn or eighty bushels of oats to the acre. If visitors dislike your flat eastern lands, send them to Middle Florida; keep them in the State, if possible."

CORN EXCITEMENT.—There was a let up in the excitement in the Baltimore corn market the 12th inst., and prices were off from the day before. Sales of wheat were made at \$1 95, the highest figures yet reached, and the market was firm. The advance in grain, it is stated, has stimulated shipments from the West, and receipts at the Atlantic seaboard cities are expected to be heavy for the future.—*Sun*.

OWLS, ETC.—We have not found any one in want of an owl, so we have concluded not to accept the offer of our friend in Spaldings, who wished to send us an owl in payment for the Gazette for six months. We might here add, that we thank the twenty one new subscribers whom we placed on our subscription list last week for their kindly support and encouragement. Many of them paid in advance—*rare aves*—the remainder with fair promises, which we have always been taught to consider "fair birds."—*Marlboro Gazette*.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The April meeting of the Frederick County Agricultural Society, took place at the Grand Jury room, Court house, on Saturday the 7th ult. Mr. W. A. Falconer, President in the chair. A large amount of business was transacted.—*Frederick Ex*.

NORTH CAROLINA TAX ON FERTILIZERS.—Thus far \$13,000 have been paid into the Treasury of North Carolina in the way of license taxes by manufacturers of fertilizers doing business in that State.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held a meeting, on Saturday the 31st of March, at the office of J. H. Merriman, in Baltimore,

J. H. Rieman, a merchant of Baltimore, was elected president, and T. B. Dorsey secretary.

Mr. Merryman, chairman of the committee, reported that they visited Westminster and conferred with the Carroll county committee and the result of the conference was that a *State Fair* should be held at that place on October 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th. The report was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Merryman, a committee consisting of Messrs. Merryman, Chas. K. Harrison, Jesse Slingluff, and R. F. Maynard was appointed to make further arrangements with the Carroll County Society, and get up the premium lists, &c.

Mr. Granville S. Hames, of Carroll county, was chosen a member of the executive committee to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Rieman's resignation.

Dr. W. H. McKellip, of Carroll county, was elected as one of the vice-presidents, and the meeting adjourned to meet again on the 28th of April.

Deep Creek Farmers' Club.

The regular March meeting of this Society was held at the residence of R. J. Rogers, Bel Air, Harford county, on the 24th, the proceedings of which we find in the *Aegis*.

The subject discussed was—"Is it better to employ labor by contract, by day, or by the month?"

Messrs. Lee, Willis, and some others spoke in favor of the contract system; while Mr. Webster and others favored the plan of hiring by the day or month.

Mr. Rogers read an article from the *MARYLAND FARMER*, entitled "The Duty of the Farmer," which impressed upon farmers the obligations they owed to their successors to improve their lands.

The annual election for officers then took place, which resulted in the selection of Wm. Webster as President, and S. Martin Bayless, Secretary and Treasurer.

POLYTECHNIC REVIEW.—A large, handsome 8-page monthly, beautifully illustrated with engravings, has been received. It is devoted to Arts and Sciences with inventions and discoveries, edited by Wahl & Grimshaw; published at Philadelphia, \$3.00 per annum; claims to be "the most reliable scientific paper in the country."

Early Bloom and Fruit.

In reading the proceedings of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, we find some facts that may be interesting to our florists and fruit growers.

M. P. Wilder said he had been hybridizing *azaleas* and *camellias* in hopes of producing early blooms on seedlings. Two years ago he had grafted young seedling *azaleas* and *camellias* in bloom and *camellias* in bud, from seedling two years old.

Mr. E. W. Buswell stated that Mr. Clapp had caused their seedling pears to fruit much earlier by grafting them into branches of old trees.

Charles M. Hovey said, it is not often that we see seedling *azaleas* brought into bloom in two years; it generally requires from four to ten year. He said he had a *Rose* from the Gen. Jacqueminot, sowing the seed in December and the plant flowering in the following May, though seedling roses do not usually flower under one or two years. He said, all trees require a certain length of time to perfect a certain kind of sap; some trees require more time than others; the Bartlett fruits on young trees at four or five years from the bud, and in two years on grafts in old trees; while the Dix, Urbaniste and some others require ten, fifteen, or twenty years.

M. P. Wilder stated, very clearly, the principle that maturity in sap is requisite to enable a plant to produce flowers and fruit; but that it was a mistake that a seedling graft could not be made to produce fruit any earlier than the seedling from which it was cut, his early flowering *Azaleas* proved the contrary.

PERSONAL.—Last month we were favored with a very pleasant visit from that veteran and highly esteemed Doctor and Farmer of St. Mary's county, Dr. C. M. Jones, now in his 90th year, hale and hearty, with the promise of half a score of years before him. He mentioned his success with *Alfalfa* and *lucerne*; he finds them useful both for hay and to turn under for manuring and renovating his land, where worn; his stock prefer them to corn fodder.

WESTERN FARM JOURNAL.—This is one of the largest and finest weekly agricultural papers in our whole country, published at Chicago, Illinois, and edited by G. Sprague. One peculiar and useful feature about it is the *law department* in which is published, each week, important law decisions, in matters particularly interesting to farmers.

HORTICULTURE.

MARYLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The April meeting of this Society was held in the Academy of Music, on Thursday the 19th of April; Mr. Perot, the President, being absent in Europe, Mr. R. W. L. Rasin occupied the chair.

We had not the pleasure of visiting the exhibition, being absent from the city, but learn that it was one of the finest Spring shows the Society has ever made, and was attended by a crowd of visitors.

From the reports in the morning papers we take the following items:

Mr. Patterson showed large collection of roses; W. H. Perot, azaleas and others; Mr. Frazer, from Patterson Park, a variety of flowers; John Feast, a large and handsome display; J. Edward Feast, a fine group; the Hoens, A. and E., a fine show; C. A. Oakland, A. Brackenridge, R. J. Halliday, J. Pentland, C. L. Kemp, G. V. Smith, and others, showed many varieties, all creditable and handsome.

BUSINESS MEETING.

At the assembling of the business meeting Mr. Rasin announced that the project of having a suitable building for the Pomological Exhibition here in September next was sure of success, as \$5,000 had been subscribed and only \$3,000 more was needed. He was satisfied that the business men of Baltimore would respond liberally.

AWARDS.

The awards of premiums by the judges were as follows: For azaleas, W. H. Perot; roses in pots, A. Patterson; pansies, E. Hoen; verbenas, A. Patterson; cinerarias, Mrs. Geo. Brown; geraniums with variegated foliage, W. H. Perot; ferns, James Pentland, and cut flowers, W. F. Massey.

EXPORTATION OF AMERICAN MEAT.—*London*, March 5.—The *Times* to-day says: "An association has been formed in Edinburgh for the purpose of purchasing and slaughtering cattle and other stock in the United States and Canada, and also purchasing farm and dairy produce for sale in Edinburgh and other ports of Great Britain. It is intended to dispense with middlemen and to open premises in Edinburgh and Leith, in the first instance, for the sale of meat."

Arkansas has a lean breed of "razor hogs" that jump through rail fences side-ways.

POTOMAC FRUIT GROWERS.

APRIL SESSION.

After disposing of routine business the Society considered the matter of

SUMMER EXCURSIONS.

A committee of seven members was appointed by the chair to confer with other kindred associations as to joint excursions next summer, and to take charge of such as may be had jointly or independently on the steamer *Mary Washington*, which has come to be the "fruit growers' boat." The following are the names of the committee: E. P. Howland, S. E. Snodgrass, Harriet N. Nute, Martha D. Lincoln, P. H. Troth, Judson S. Brown, George Gross, Wm. H. Chase, Lafayette Bingham.

CIDER—FRUITS.

How to prevent cider and other fruit juices from getting sour was discussed.

Secretary Snodgrass said he knew that mustard seed in the proportion of a quart, or even less, to the barrel of cider, would effectually arrest fermentation.

Mr. Troth.—Would horse-radish have the same effect; and was answered that it would.

Col. Pitts said freezing the cider used to be resorted to in Western New York, as he recollected of his childhood days. And yet he supposed there was alcohol in the frozen cider, although it was agreed that the process of fermentation had been prevented.

Col. Daniels said they had now struck a legitimate vein of discussion. Any process that would utilize the matured and healthful properties of our fruits was, in his judgment, a pertinent and useful one. The purpose of papers read before the association was to open the whole subject touched upon, whether covered by the several essayists or not. Under the head of the "Preservation of Fruits," he would, therefore, ask the secretary to give the results of his observation as to the most improved method for preserving fruits dry.

The secretary remarked that there are several patent drying establishments in the country.

CALIFORNIA MATTERS.—Our very interesting California letter is crowded out this month, to make room for some cuts, in Horticultural department.

ABUTILON.

(FLOWERING MAPLE.)



The above beautiful cut is from the splendid catalogue of Ellwanger & Barry, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

This is a desirable pot plant, and in favorable situations is a good border plant ; it flowers freely summer and winter ; flowers, white, with yellow petals, it is the "Boule de Neigle," and is regarded the finest white bloom Abutilon that is grown ; they can be obtained from the above named popular florists.

For the Maryland Farmer.

WILLOWS FOR HEDGES.

In the March number of your Magazine one of your subscribers.—Mr. Burket,—inquires where he can get *Willow cuttings*. I have recently ordered 2000 of them from a willow plantation somewhere on the Patapsco bottoms. There are three or four varieties, and as some of them thrive on dry land, would perhaps suit the purpose of your correspondent.

In one of the early reports of the U. S. Agricultural Department, may be found an article on *willow culture*; and in that, if my memory serves me faithfully, a certain *white* willow is commended for hedges. It was then grown extensively on the western prairies, and when well grown the annual prunings sufficed for fuel on many farms. For hedges, I should suppose the strongest and most erect-growing sorts would be preferred.

The most flexible kinds are best suited for my use, *viz*—for fastening grape vines to their stakes. In my vineyard many thousands of willow slips are needed every spring; and as the wild willow, on which I have heretofore relied, are very inferior, and becoming scarce on my farm, I have decided to plant a patch of the best sorts.

On the same page of your Journal, there is a brief editorial notice of Mr. Jacques' pamphlet on "Florida as a permanent home." I have been in that *land of flowers*, so called; and agree with you, that the painters of it,—like those of California and other distant regions,—use entirely too much *red* in the brush. With them everything is *couleur de rose*. Look now at the present condition of California agriculture, and you will see the other side of the picture. The whole state parched with drought;—flocks and herds dying from starvation and thirst,—and the large land speculators begging the newspapers to say nothing about it.

As to Florida, it certainly has a fine climate the year round; and, for the most part, is very salubrious. For very poor and lazy men, it is the most desirable country I ever saw. It is very easy to make a mere living there. But I would advise no one who can exist outside of an Alms House in *Maryland*, to leave it for any other State. One may, perhaps, get a little nearer to a *lemon* in Florida, but he will be much farther from the oysters and crabs of the Chesapeake, with which there is nothing to compare in any part of the globe.—No State in the Union can afford greater rewards for persevering industry than our own Maryland.

At this season of the year, farmers are generally well supplied with Nursery Catalogues, and some

of them contain much useful information. One of the most remarkable and amusing however, that I have received lately, is that of the "Honeymoon Nursery" near Jacksonville, Florida, and of which Mr. L. A. Hardee (the originator of the *concussion* theory for destroying insects in Orange groves) is the proprietor. In regard to that, his advice is, "for scale insect, fire double barrel guns under *each tree* after dark, when dew is heavy." What a labor this fusillade must entail upon orange growers! I have sometimes found that a single discharge from a small *revolver* has saved my fruit from the worst enemies we have in this latitude.

This catalogue contains a list of not more than two dozen fruits, about half of which the proprietor tells us are unprofitable, or will not succeed.—On the whole it is a rather disappointing *Honeymoon* for any lover (of fruits). But Mr. Hardee is evidently an honest man; and if I ever plant an Orange grove, I shall certainly buy his trees. At the close of the Catalogue he states that he is preparing a practical treatise on the cultivation of the *Citrus* family, to which will be appended a pamphlet, entitled—"Root Hog or Die, in Florida."

As this promises to be something rich, it is to be hoped that *Patuxent Planter* will serve it up for his readers if it ever reaches his table. Excuse the length of this letter, for which you are indebted to the storm of St. Patrick's day, which has confined me to the fireside and compelled me to use my pen.

Truly yours,

G.

Anne Arundel Co., March 17th, 1877.

NOTE.—We know very little of California or Florida, from personal knowledge.—*Editors Md. Farmer.*

MAIN GRAPE.—We see that northern and western papers speak highly of this comparatively new grape; it somewhat resembles the Concord; will it succeed well in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware? It is said to be superior to any other grape cultivated in New England or the Canadas, for its hardy growth, prolific bearing and early ripening qualities. It possesses all the qualities of a First-class Grape, and contains a larger amount of sugar, tender pulp, large and compact bunch, large berry, few and small seeds. It ripens early, has excellent keeping qualities, is of a purple color, and has an unusually rich and delicious flavor.

The Main Grape has taken many premiums in the vicinity where it was propagated. It is harder than the Concord, and remarkable for its better and more desirable qualities.

ZONAL GERANIUM.

(ROUND FLOWERED.)



The above cut represents the favorite Zonal Geranium, "Harry King," which is kindly furnished to us by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, Popular Florists, of Rochester, N. Y. Harry King is regarded as the finest Zonal ever sent out; color, intense scarlet, with large white eye, and more brilliant than "Jean Sisley;" it remains longer in perfection than any other Zonal, and has the valuable property of keeping the centre well filled up.

While the cuts often exaggerate the beauty of flowers and plants, we can say that the above cut does not exhibit the full magnificence of this splendid flower.

Good, if Reliable.

NEW MODE OF PROPAGATION.—Under this head the *London Gardeners' Chronicle* says :

It will be remembered that a month or two ago we alluded to an alledged extraordinary secret for propagating trees and grafting roses, whereby much time could be saved, offered for a small sum by an Austrian nurseryman. This gentleman has since communicated an article on the subject to the *Wiener Gartenfreund*. Briefly, his new method is as follows: Cuttings of trees and shrubs are taken off at the beginning of July, from 6 in. to 12 in. long, according to the kind. The leaves are removed from the lower portion which is to enter the ground, but those which will come above ground are left. Beds are prepared for them in the open air by thorough digging and levelling, and afterwards applying a superficial layer, about 2 in. thick, of rotten manure from a spent hot-bed. The cuttings are then stuck in about 2 in. apart and in a somewhat oblique direction. Each bed when filled is surrounded with a lath fence, so that shade may be given when the sun is very hot, and the cuttings are well watered with a rose-spouted can. This completes the operation. The only further care necessary is a sprinkling overhead three or four times a day during the first week, if the weather be very hot, and once a day afterwards. In the course of five or six weeks, treated in the manner indicated, the cuttings of most plants will have formed a callus, and further shading will be unnecessary. Late in the autumn a layer of rough manure, 2 in. or 3 in. thick, is spread over for winter protection. It also serves as manure when the cuttings start growing in the spring; treated thus, make extraordinary progress,—forming plants equal to two-year-old plants from winter or spring cuttings. Very few, it is asserted, fail. The new method of grafting roses is the insertion of growing eyes early in spring, instead of dormant eyes in the summer. They are inserted in the main stem, one on each side, to form symmetrical heads. These make, it is said, as much growth the first season as the dormant eyes the second season.

At present France takes the lead in the production of beet root sugar, and Germany comes next. It is possible that the United States may take a place in the list in a few years, now that Maine has offered a bounty for the makers of beet root sugar in that State. In California the beet root sugar cultivation has rather failed, the soil seeming to affect the saccharine quality.

Tomatoes and Insects.

Highly important, if reliable. The following is going around among the newspapers :

I planted a peach orchard, writes M. Siroy, of the society of Horticulture, Valparaiso, and the trees grew well and strongly. They had but just commenced to bud when they were invaded by the curculio (pulgón), which insects were followed, as frequently happens, by ants. Having cut some tomatoes, the idea occurred to me that by placing some of the leaves around the trunks and branches of the peach trees I might preserve them from the rays of the sun, which were very powerful. My surprise was great the following day to find the trees entirely free from their enemies, not one remaining except here and there where a curled leaf prevented the tomato from exercising its influence. These leaves I carefully unrolled, placing upon them fresh ones from the tomato vine, with the result of banishing the last insect and enabling the trees to grow with luxuriance. Wishing to carry still further my experiment, I steeped in water some fresh leaves of the tomato and sprinkled with this infusion other plants, roses and oranges. In two days these were also free from the innumerable insects which covered them, and I felt sure that had I used the same means with my melon patch I should have met with the same result. I therefore deem it a duty I owe to the society of Horticulture to make known this singular and useful property to the tomato leaves, which I discovered by the merest accident.

TO BEAR FRUIT EVERY YEAR.—In a Rochester, N. Y. paper, we find this statement: "Mr. Woodward is experimenting to see if he can make his orchard bear every year. Is trying several phosphates, and had applied bran with good effects. He believes in barnyard manure—believes passing food through animals improves it for manure, making it more soluble."

Manuring and fertilizing may do a little toward the desired result, so far as that strengthens the growth and health of the trees; but the surest way to get yearly crops of fruits is to pull off and thin out the young fruit, when one-third or one-fourth grown, so that the trees may not be forced to overbear; the one-half quantity of good handsome fruit each year, is much more desirable and profitable, than double the quantity every other year, or only alternate crops. We have known trees made to bear handsome crops of sound, large fruit, annually, simply by the *thinning-out* process, which does not exhaust the trees.

Common and Botanical Names.

Young farmers often desire to know the scientific names of common things.

Now our Wheat, from which we make our nice bread, is a plant of the genus *Triticum*; and is of two general varieties, namely, *triticum æstivum*, spring wheat, commonly grown on the western prairies and in the colder northern states; and *triticum hiburnum*, our common winter wheat. Buckwheat, a plant of the *Polygonum* family, the *fagopyrum esculentum*. Rye, a plant of the wheat family; the *Secale cereale*.

Oats, a plant of the genus *Avena*, our common oats being *A. Sativa*.

Orchard Grass, in botany, the *Dactylus glomerata*, Kentucky Blue grass, the *Poa compressa*. Red Clover, *Trifolium pratense*; and white clover, *T. repens*. Timothy grass, *Phleum pratense*. Chess, (or cheat) *Bromus secalinus*; which some people erroneously believe is produced from diseased wheat, or blasted; as well say one of your pigs had turned into a hedge-hog if you should chance to find one of those prickly fellows in your pen. Hog, genus, *Sus*; hedge hog, genus *Erinaceus*.

TO KEEP GRAPES.—At a recent meeting of the Western N. Y. Farmers' Club, in February, at Rochester, Mr. Henry Quinby showed samples of the Crevelling and Diana grapes, which were in a good state of preservation, and the Diana, very sweet, and with less of its offensive, musky flavor than in autumn. We thought the Crevelling had lost some of its flavor. He lets his grapes hang on the vines until fully matured, picks carefully without bruising them, lays in market baskets, and places the baskets in a cool room where the air can circulate freely around them, until they have undergone the sweating process, when he repacks in market baskets, a layer of grapes and newspapers alternating until the basket is filled. He then stores in a cellar, or room, where he can keep as near the freezing point as possible. Has kept them in good condition till last of April. Has kept Diana, Isabella, Crevelling, Ionia and Catawba.

LECTURE.—We learn from the *Marlboro' Gazette*, that our friend Commodore AMMEN, of this county delivered, a few evenings ago, a very interesting and instructive lecture on "Trees—How to Plant Them," before the faculty and students of the Maryland agricultural college. The commodore is engaged largely in fruit culture, and his address contained many practical points.

American Pomological Society.

This noble old Society, MARSHALL P. WILDER, President, held its 15th bi-ennial meeting in Chicago, September, 1875; and will hold its 16th bi-ennial session in Baltimore, September next, 1877. The Society held an extra meeting—a sort of reunion—with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, at the Centennial, in Philadelphia.

This is *not* the "United States" Society, or, "National" Society, as many seem to call it, not being confined to our nation; but it is the AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, embracing Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Mexico, as well as the United States.

The 16th session will be held next September, in Baltimore, at the invitation of and in connection with the Maryland Horticultural Society; and that State Society requests and hopes the business men and growers of this city and State will liberally aid in making the meeting a creditable and useful one.

QUALITY OF GRAPES.—To the question, "Have we reached highest excellence in grapes?" Mr. Younglove said, he hardly thinks we have reached the height of excellence in the grape. We want more sugar in our grapes. Would not wish to change the growing qualities of Delaware, Agawam and Salem, but would like a little more sugar in them. Could wish that Catawba were a little stronger grower, but would not change cluster. Would make Delaware 115°, Catawba 95°, Agawam and Salem from 96° to 100° on saccharometer. No grape grown in California, or on foreign soils, that would equal these grapes if made as sweet as indicated. Grapes *can* be grown with profit.

Mr. Younglove said, it was common for vineyardists to say that the business is "played out," but Mr. Larue and he knew that men to do better in that than in farming.

PROLIFIC PEAR TREE.—Thirty-five years ago M. A. Wilkinson planted a pear seed, which is a tree now, on a farm owned by Dennis Nelson, near Dunlap, Peoria Co., Ill. This tree is of course a seedling, and bore thirty bushels of pears in 1875, which sold at the rate of four dollars per bushel. The product for 1876 was forty bushels and sold for about three dollars per bushel. Total result in two years \$250. Who can beat this? The tree is said to have proven as hardy as an oak. Mr. Nelson says he has owned the farm for twelve years and has not failed in this time to get a fair crop. Its keeping qualities are good. Will keep until spring; like a winter apple.—*Western Paper*.

The Catawba Grape.

The true history of this splendid grape was, several years ago, presented and settled at an early meeting of the Potomac Fruit Growers' Society.

Mr. Downing attributes the discovery of this grape to Major Adlum, of Georgetown, D. C., but at a recent meeting of the P. F. G. Society, Dr. J. E. Snodgrass, in a presentation address, to Hon. W. H. Clagett, revived the true history of it, and showed that Mr. Darius Clagett, father of W. H. C., was the original discoverer and introducer of this fine grape, to civilization—that he found it in the mountain woods of Virginia, where he was traveling on horseback, over fifty years ago, and brought cuttings in his saddle-bags to Georgetown where he planted them in his garden; and from the growth of these cuttings he gave new cuttings to Major Adlum, who continued to propagate them, and did much to bring them to the notice of growers, thus getting the credit of discovery. They were taken from Georgetown to Nicholas Longworth, of Cincinnati.

PEARS.—This delicious fruit is for sale, all winter, and now, in the confectionery stores of our city, brought from California. Why do not our own orchardists supply the market, from our own soil? Pears can be raised and kept here, in Maryland, until this time, and at a profit.

The Lawrence and Beurre Easter, perhaps some others, will keep till this time, if properly managed; and save the money here that is sent, at high prices, to other parts of the country. What says Mr. Saul, Mr. Peters, and others, on the subject.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—With the first breath of Spring came the April number of the *Maryland Farmer*, both suggestive of planting and sowing. Among the many subjects of interest treated upon in this number, none is of more importance than that of "Agriculture in School," wherein is shown the benefit and good results which might accrue from introducing into our common schools a reasonable amount of instruction in the rudimentary principles of all of those sciences that are the hand-maids of agriculture. The *Farmer* is a valuable farm journal, and should be in every family in our State.—*St. Mary's Beacon*.

N. O. PICAYUNE is one of the best and spiciest weekly papers that we read; it proposes to give special attention to agricultural affairs, in which it can greatly benefit the Southern readers; it is not picayune in any way but name.

Commissioner of Agriculture.

If President Hayes shall make a change in this important office, we think he would be wise in consulting the Agricultural Journals and substantial Farmers. It is an office that may be of great value to the farming community, and therefore, also to all the country.

Among the many names which have been suggested for the place, the following are prominent:

J. P. Reynolds, J. W. Ware, J. M. Langston, W. C. Flagg, D. D. T. Moore, Wm. Saunders, J. R. Dodge, Chalkley Gillingham, Burnett Landreth, Marshall P. Wilder, R. H. Allen, Horace Capron, and others, all good men, who would fill the bill.

THE MARYLAND FARMER for April is received. It is not only an exceedingly interesting number for the general reader, but brim full of useful information for the agriculturist. None of our farmers should be without this *home* agricultural. It is worth ten times its cost to any intelligent tiller of the soil. Send \$1.50 to Ezra Whitman, Esq., Baltimore. Our word for it, you will never regret it.—*Cecil Whig*.

WEATHER REPORTS.—We have received from the Signal Corps office the March Report, which shows the rain fall for the month was 4.20 inches against 3.85 for many previous years.

The average temperature of warmth for same month, was 41.4 degrees, against 40.5 degrees for previous years.

These show a warmer but wetter month than in previous years.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The April number of this always interesting monthly is before us, and its several departments are well filled with original and carefully selected matter, Agricultural, Horticultural, Live Stock, the Dairy, Poultry House and Apiary, all have their share of space, and then there is an interesting department for the ladies, in household economy, etc. It is the good old reliable for the farm and family.—*Woodberry News*.

WICOMICO.—We have just received another communication from "Wicomico," but too late for this number; it will be inserted next month.

THE UNION, New York city, is received; published at 148th street and 3d Avenue; weekly, at \$2.50 per annum, in advance.

Prepare in Time.

It seems to be pretty well settled that there will soon be an extensive European War; that, therefore, the Eastern World will be compelled to draw large quantities of supplies and provisions from us. Hence, our farmers will do well to consume at home all the corn, oats and potatoes they can, and have the more *wheat* to export; consume what you can't export to advantage, in order to have as much as possible to export.

EXCITEMENT.—There was some excitement on 'Change again this day, April 13. Western corn was active, strong and excited. About 450,000 bushels were reported sold, principally for April delivery, at $34\frac{1}{4}$ cts. higher than yesterday.

Wheat was 5a10 cts. higher again this morning, some sales of Maryland amber, being made at \$2.00 per bushel, the highest price reached this season.

Flour was very strong and buoyant in tone, and prices were generally higher.—*News.*

COTTON.—The North American urges Philadelphians to reach after the cotton trade by means of the railroad connections with the South which the Pennsylvania railroad has been making for some years past.

FOOD.—Minnesota papers say that farmers in almost every locality are going to plow and to sow as usual, perhaps not so much wheat, but something that will afford sustenance if the wheat should again be devoured by locusts.

SWIMMING A HORSE.—When swimming a horse *never touch* the bridle, as a horse is easily drowned when checked up or otherwise interfered with about the head. Sit well back and guide the horse with the hand, gently slapping him on either side as required; thus a horse will swim a mile or more with a full grown man on his back, and suffer but little. A still safer way on reaching deep water is for the rider to relieve the horse of his weight, by sliding into the water beside the horse, grasping the mane near the withers with one hand, thus requiring the horse simply to *tow* the rider, the latter assisting him in this, by using his legs and free arm in the same way as in swimming. In crossing rivers with rapid currents, the rider should take the down-stream side of the horse. I have seen this method practiced by the Indians with much success.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

The sweet breath of Spring comes from her tulips, and the grass has grown hyacinth the rain.

Maryland Agricultural College.

The stockholders of this institution held their annual meeting for the election of a Board of Trustees, at Guy's Hotel in this city, on Wednesday, April 11.

We were not present, and give the report of the proceedings from the columns of the Sun. The Old Board were all re-elected except Mr. Calvert, and we regret his defeat, as he was an early friend of the College, as was his honorable father before him.

We learn from the American that the vote for the successful ticket ranged from 3,848 to 3,450, the latter number being the vote cast for Mr. Sands.

MANGE IN HORSES.—Scabies, mange, is entirely local; wash with *strong soft-soap* suds thoroughly; wipe perfectly dry; then anoint liberally with Tilden's iodo-bromide of calcium compound, one part, and proof spirits six or eight parts; rub in well. This is decidedly the best, although there are many other preparations for the destruction of the itch parasite, properly called *sarcoptes-equi*. Sulphur, properly applied is good. Common whiskey one pint; water 10 oz.; creosote, 2 oz., well mixed is a very good and successful application, but none, in accordance with my experience, is as good as the iodo-bromide, and it is the cleanest and most easily applied.—*Wm. Horne, V. S.*

CECIL WHIG ITEMS.—To raise sheep successfully, use blue glass. Powder it fine and administer it to worrying dogs in their feed.

The farmers are all busy at work putting in grain, consequently our town is, as usual at this season, very dull.

The spring lamb has gotten so much the start of the green peas that they will hardly go together this season.

Now that the genial rays of April's sun has extracted the frost from the ground, it is a good time to plant, cats.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The April number of the *Maryland Farmer* came to hand, and it is full to overflowing with most valuable information for farmers on the Eastern Shore. Every line is ably discussed and information of the most important nature fills its pages.—*Eastern Virginian.*

Great effort from great motives is the best definition of a happy life. The easiest labor is a burden to him who has no motive for performing it.

FARMER TEXT BOOKS.

We have been advocating the Natural Sciences, which pertain to Agriculture, as branches of regular study in our Rural Schools; and suggesting that suitable *Text Books* and Teachers be supplied for that purpose.

And now we are glad to find the Scholarly Editor of *St Michael's Comet* supporting the measure.

We have one rap for our neighbor, though; he is not quite liberal, according our notions—he says for “farmers’ boys;” we say, for both, GIRLS and boys; girls, on the farm, in fact in any home, should learn how to grow flowers, fruits and garden stuff; they would find pleasure, and profit too, in understanding Botany, Geology and Chemistry, as well as the care of domestic animals.

The Maryland Farmer.

With the first breath of Spring comes the April number of the Maryland Farmer, both suggestive of planting and sowing. Among the many subjects of interest treated upon in this number, none is of more importance than that of “Agriculture in School,” wherein is shown the benefit and good results which might accrue from introducing into our common schools a reasonable amount of instruction in the rudimentary principles of all of those sciences that are the hand-maids of agriculture. The Farmer is a valuable farm journal and should be in every family in our State.—*Marlboro' Gazette*.

BALDWIN APPLES.—Among the fresh and best kept apples, which we find in the Baltimore markets, are the Baldwins, worth \$2.50 to \$3.00 per barrel; mostly brought from New York and Ohio.

Cannot the Orchardists of Maryland supply these apples to our markets, and save the money at home?

We think they can, by having orchards on the northern and northwestern slopes, with deeply pulverized, well drained soils; then pick the fruit carefully.

NORTHERN SPYS, are also excellent keepers, and a few are still found in our markets; they have, when long kept, a little of the pleasant taste of pine apples.

GOLDEN RUSSETS are pretty good now, but are rather insipid in taste compared to the others.

THE PHOENIX is a good keeper, with a pleasant flavor, till now.

THE Rouen duck when well kept will weigh as much as 15 to 18 pounds the pair.

Melons—The Best.

What kind to grow; in answer to frequent inquiries in regard to these matters we give as our best opinion, that,

Water Melons—The Mountain Sprout, the Peerless, and Phinney's Early, are the most desirable, the latter very early; the Gypsey and the Black Spanish are favorites with many growers; the Chinese, a new variety, and Golden core, are also popular.

Musk Melons—the early Yellow Cantaloupe, the Green Nutmeg, and the Long Yellow, are good; the Jenny Lind is very nice and popular; it is one of the earliest.

Deep, rich, warm porous soils are best for all melons; the ground should be well pulverized and often stirred.

LADY WRITERS.—Lady correspondents—able and interesting—have become one of the institutions of Washington, as fixed and influential as the “third house of Congress.”

Two of the most sprightly of them, “Flora,” and “Bessie Beech,” contribute monthly articles to the MARYLAND FARMER. A writer in the Washington Republican makes the following remarks in regard to one of them:

“Bessie Beech,” is a charming little woman, possessing a world of energy, although as fragile as a flower. She occupies rooms in the city, but owns a pleasant home in the suburbs, and is quite independent of her literary income. Her husband or sister brings her into the city every morning in her cosy carriage, and comes after her in the evening. She is engaged on papers in this city and Boston which makes her presence here during the day necessary.”

A. B. FARQUHAR.—This energetic and honorable manufacturer, York, Pa., of agricultural implements and machinery, has his new and enlarged establishment in complete operation, and has sent out one of the handsomest and fullest catalogues of the season; let all who are interestnd send for it.

CUTTINGS.—Now is the time to cut a sprig from a lilac bush and plant it in a bottle of warm water, if you want to enjoy the blossoms several weeks before they appear in the natural order.—*Port Tobacco Independent*.

HOLSTEINS.—John H. Comer, Esq., Goshen, N. Y., has lately imported from Holland a bull and four Holstein heifers for E. M. Washburn, of Lenox Furnace, Mass.

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for May.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"Mild rides the *May-morn*, in orient beauty drest;
An azure mantle and a purple vest,
Which, blown by gales, her gemmy feet display;
Her amber tresses negligently gay.
Collected now her rosy hand they fill,
And gentle wrung, the pearly dew distill.
The songful zephyrs, and the laughing hours
Breathe sweet, and strew her opening way with flowers."

Just such a morning, as thus described by *Savage*, I strolled along the beautiful banks of the winding Patuxent, and up the heights called "Lawyer's Hill," where beauty, learning and literature find retirement, and soothing repose from the jar and bustle of the varied avocations of the town—the harassing mercantile pursuits, the excitement of politics, the mind wearying cases in the courts,—and all the other stirring employments antagonistic to that calm and quiet, so essential to physical health and mental contentment.

Nature is very charming at this vernal season—so much new life and loveliness and budding hopes of a fruitful year.

"For all the bloomy orchards glow
As if with a fall of rosy snow."

The landscape, from the eminence where I was, is strikingly fine; the eye takes in cultivated fields, handsome dwellings, deep, wild ravines, bold cliffs covered with forest trees clad in green, and shading a richly colored carpet of wild flowers everywhere peeping through the brown leaves strewn by the last autumn wind; the woods musical with the songs of birds, each so merry.

"That all the broad leaves over me
Clapped their little hands in glee."

You trace the meandering of the river as its waters, fretted into tiny waves by its rocky bed, glisten in the sunshine like molten silver or shivered crystal, now forcing its way through gorges formed by precipitous granite walls on either side, like perfect work of masonry, then cooling itself under the shade of o'er-hanging trees, and anon gliding through a smiling valley until ten miles off, it is shut out from sight by the great city of the south, with her multitude of shipping, houses, steeples towers and monuments.

When gazing on rural scenes like this we cannot envy the man whose heart is so cold and unsentimental as not to appreciate gratefully the beneficence of God, and who has not, in the words of the poetess,

"The eye to see this pleasant world, its hills and valleys green,
Its rich dark woods, in Autumn time, decked out in dazzling sheen;
Its brooks, its mountains and its lakes; and in quiet even,
The glittering stars which smile on us—the shining eyes of Heaven!"

Milton, says—In those vernal seasons of the year when the air is calm and pleasant, it were an injury and sullenness against nature not to go out and see her riches, and partake of her rejoicing with heaven and earth. Also, in verse he thus laments his blindness:

"With the year,

Season return; but not to me returns

Day, or the sweet approach of even or morn,
Of sight of vernal bloom or summer's rose."

What a deprivation the loss of sight must be!—Let us who are blessed with sight and health, drink in the fullest inspirations from the early morn and evening twilight when the "shining eyes of Heaven" are looking down upon us. It is a duty we owe to ourselves and a debt we owe the Creator, to ramble and meditate with grateful hearts upon our happy lot while we have such pleasant seasons to enjoy out-door exercises.

It is not too late to plant ornamental trees on the lawn or about the house—some fruit trees, such as the Plum, Bitter Almond, Pear, Cherry, Walnut, Chesnut and Hickory; they are not only useful but are beautiful shade trees. It is the right time to plant shrubs and flowers. Every homestead should be beautified with these in abundance. It costs but little labor or time,—an hour of a night or a morning will do a great deal. There is no excuse for want of beautiful surroundings to a home where the soil and climate are so prolific in production as in our favored land. Plant ornamental shrubs and flowers, by all means. They should be seen blooming around every dwelling. They add to the pleasure and comfort of all who come in contact with them, and especially exercise a refining influence on children.

The old time shrubs, like Lilacs, Snowballs, Mock Orange, &c., and the old varieties of, Roses, &c., as well as the many old perennial flowers, should not be abandoned in subservience to the fashion for newer kinds; yet, newer ones ought to be planted also, and some of the novelties bought and tried.

Each year there are many put on the market by florists, some are really very remarkable and beautifully striking. Every one has a natural desire to have something in the vegetable or floral kingdom not possessed by her neighbor, especially if it be rare and exotic. I well remember the furor caused by the importation of the lilies from Japan. Yet while they are exquisite, they have not that delightful perfume of our old acquaintance the day-lily. The tender *Gladiolus* was a great addition to our flora, but yet it hardly excels many of our native hardy perennial *Aquilegia* (*Columbine*)—my favorite wild flower of the gravelly skirts of the woods, where I have gathered beauteous specimens though the flowers were smaller than the new sorts which have undergone the manipulation of of scientific and skilful florists.

Among the novelties, out this year, are some that ought to be tried for I am sure they will give great satisfaction, such as:—new Fringe double *Petunia*, *Browallia Roezli*, *Cyclamen*, *Persicum Giganteum*, new fancy Pansies, new double *Balsam*, Dwarf Chinese Holly hock; *Aster*, called *Washington*, and some choice *Cannas*. Besides these some of the new *Geraniums* and *Primulas*. Each and all are choice.

Every lady should have and treasure as pets for her conservatory or as window plants, *Japonicas*, a Lemon tree that will bear fruit, a Jerusalem Cherry or improved *Solanum*, *Fuchsias*; a white crape *Myrtle*, and a dwarf Pomegranate, hardy with us, but a lovely winter blooming plant in the house; also some *Primroses* besides some *Azaleas* and

Oleanders. This would be a choice small collection for winter pleasure and ornament in the parlor or family-room windows, where there is no greenhouse or conservatory. Many of them would do well in a pit or a cold grapery set near the glass, and protected during very cold weather or removed to the dwelling where the temperature would not fall below 35 degrees.

I mention these plants, because now you can get the seeds and grow them yourselves, or you can buy small plants, at low prices; and then easily out doors rear them to a good size by autumn, and from one plant you can propagate several by budding, layering, cuttings, &c.

Shallow boxes, about three or four inches deep are best to raise tender flowers from seed. Fill the box with equal parts of clean white sand, well rotted manure or wood mould sifted through a fine riddle or sieve, and fine coal dust, *not ashes*, well intermixed. Level it in the box, sow the seeds in very shallow rows, and press the top of the earth close with a smooth board. Keep the top of the earth just moist using a small water pot with a fine nozzle, to let the tepid water fall like spray on the ground and on the young plants.

If the plants come up too thick, draw them out, and if you wish, transplant them in such little pots as florists use, or make similar pots from stiff paste-board which will do as well until they are grown enough to be shifted in larger boxes or pots, or planted on the open border. When put out on the border, protect for a few days from the sun, until they have been acclimated or take root. They will not feel the change if planted out from the pots or paper boxes, as by inverting the pot or box, and tapping the bottom the earth will come out in a solid ball without jarring or disturbing the roots of the plant.

I hope your *bees* and *poultry* are coming on finely. This is the choice month for both to flourish.—Look to your pigeons. I wish I could be with you to feed and admire your game—bantam chickens—the prettiest of all the domestic feathered tribe is the black breasted game Bantum of one or two pounds weight.

PEACHES.—The Eastern Virginian, middle of April, says that the peach blossoms which came out last week before they were ready, are sorry now that they did not wait for a more pressing invitation.

WOMAN'S WORK.—This is the title of a handsome Monthly, printed on beautiful tinted paper, at Philadelphia, and illustrated with fine engravings; price \$1.00 per annum.

Mrs. Gates, widow of the gallant Gen. Gates, is the Washington agent and correspondent.

LOCUSTS.—Some observers and calculators tell us that we are to have the locusts in Maryland this year,—the fourteen year kind. It is always a sign of something, we forget what, when the locusts come!—*Woodberry News*.

War in Europe.

A war among the European powers is now a fixed fact; and though we must deplore the sufferings which it brings, we may prepare to reap all the legitimate benefits that it will afford us, in supplying their food.

This is the farmers' opportunity; all his products will be wanted—bread, meat and clothing, and at good prices. Then let our farmers raise all they can of articles that are exportable, and their best substitutes for home consumption.

Russia's war with Turkey is not likely to be the limit or end of the conflict.

WOODBERRY NEWS.—A more spicy or handsomely printed county paper does not come to our office than the above.

SPRING AND FLOWERS.—We are favored with a beautiful communication, on Pansys and Spring, from Mrs. Lewis, of Madison, Wis. a lady of genius and culture, with much experience and enthusiasm in floral cultivation; but received, we regret, too late for this number. Our readers shall have the pleasure of it in June No. of our Magazine.

WOOL.—A well known wool-firm of San Francisco is about to introduce a new idea to the wool trade of California and the Pacific coast. They will hold periodical auction sales in San Francisco this season, beginning on the 17th April, when at least 1,000 bales of California wool will be offered.

GLAMORGAN.—In this number of the FARMER Mr. Easter's advertisement, of the above splendid horse, gives notice of the stables, at which he may be found.

FINE STOCK.—Farmers will do well to examine the advertisement of John Henderson's fine stock.

NURSERY STOCK.—People in Louisiana who wish to increase their fruit production will do well to call at G. W. Stoner's nursery, at Shreveport, Louisiana.

REPORT OF THE SIGNAL CORPS.—By politeness of A. Ashley, Esq., Chief Clerk, we have received the Annual Report of this Service, a large volume, handsomely illustrated with maps, diagrams, &c., for which thanks.

The New assessment in Worcester county foots up \$5,000,000—about the same as the former valuation.

BALTIMORE, April 25th.—Price of *Wheat*, \$2.15.00 \$2.25; *Corn*, 65 to 68 cents; war news did it.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--May 1.

This Market Report is carefully made up every month, and farmers may rely upon its correctness.

Cotton.—The demand is good; prices, 12 @ 13 cts.

Bark.—The market steady and unchanged. We quote No. 1 at \$25; No. 2 at \$12a20 per ton, free on board.

Beans and Peas.—The market is dull and easier. We quote—
New York medium choice..... \$2 00a2 25
New York Prime..... \$2 00a2 50
Country Beans..... 1 20a1 50

Beeswax.—Receipts light, and prices steady; in fair demand. We quote at 20a30 cents.

Broom Corn.—The market; prices lower. We quote good to choice medium green. 5½a8 cents; common red tipped, 7 cents per pound.

Butter.
Ex. Fine Choice. Prime.
New York State..... a20 21a24 22a24
North Western Roll..... 18a19 25a27 20a23
Western Reserve do..... 25a28 21a22 18a20
Western packed..... 23a25 20a22 18a20
Near by Receipts..... 20a30 19a23 17a22

Cheese.
New York State Choice..... 14 a16
do. do. Good to prime..... 12 a13
Western Fine..... 14 a15
do. do. Good to prime..... 11 a13

Dried Fruits—DOMESTIC—
Apples, sliced..... 8 a10
do. quarters..... 7 a9
Peaches, peeled..... 12 a16
do. unpeeled quarters..... 8 a10
do. halves..... 8 a10

Feathers.—We quote 60 cents for Western Live Geese, 50a55 cents for good do., and 25a15 cents for common to fair per lb.

GRAINS.

CORN.

Southern White..... 58a60
do. Yellow..... 51a60

WHEAT.

Western No. 1 Amber..... \$1 80 a2 00
do. No. 2 do..... 1 50 a 55
do. Mixed do..... a
do. No. 1 Red..... 1 80 a2 00
do. No. 2 do..... 95 a1 15
Pennsylvania Red..... 2 50 a2 60
Maryland Red..... 2 02 a2 05
do. Amber..... 1 85 a2 00
do. White..... 1 80 a1 90

OATS.

Southern good to prime..... 40a45

RYE.

Good to prime..... 72a73

Hay and Straw—

Hay—Cecil Co. Timothy..... \$19 00a20 00
do. Penn. and New York..... 16 00a18 00
do. Mixed..... 13 00a14 00
do. Clover..... 13 00a14 00
Straw—Wheat..... 10 00a11 00
do. Oat..... 12 00a13 00
do. Rye..... 16 00a17 00

Hides.—Market fair; quotations as follows: Association Steers, selected middle and overweights, 9a11 cents; Cows and light Steers, 10 cents.

Mill Feed—

Western Bran, per ton..... \$20 00a26 00
do. Shipstuff, per ton..... 13 00a14 00

Onions.—Eastern \$1.75a2.25 for round lots; Western \$1.25a2.00 per bbl.

Potatoes—

Early Rose, per bushel..... a
do. per bbl..... \$4 50a5 00
Peerless, per bus..... 1 30a1 50
do. per bbl..... 3 50a4 00
Peach Blow, per bus..... 1 25a1 50
do. per bbl..... 3 00a3 50
Sweet Potatoes per bbl..... 3 50a5 50

Eggs—

Fresh Western..... 12a14
Near by receipts..... 11a13
Pickled..... a—
Fresh Southern..... 11a12

Poultry and Game—

Live Turkeys, undrawn..... 15 a20
Chickens per dozen..... 2.00a4.00
Ducks " "..... 1.00a5.50
Geese..... 8 a10
(Drawn 1a3 cents higher, as to quality.)

LIVE STOCK.

BEEF CATTLE.

That rated first quality..... 4 a6 cents
Medium or fair quality..... 3½a5 do.
Most sales are from..... 3¾a5½ do.

Hogs.—\$9 a10, latter for a few extra heavy Hogs.

Sheep.—We quote at 4¾a 7½ cents per lb., gross.

Seeds.—Clover scarce and in demand.

Clover Alsike..... 7 b 60c
do. Lucerne best..... 60c
do. Red, Choice..... 14a16
do. White..... 60c
Flaxseed..... 7 bush. 1.30a1 40
Grass Red Top..... 7 bush. 1.00a1.50
do. Orchard..... 2.50a3.25
do. Italian Rye..... 3.50
do. Hungarian..... 1.50a1.75
do. Timothy 45 lb..... 2.15a2.15
do. Kentucky Blue..... 2.25a2.50
do. Extra Clean..... 2.50a4.00
do. Fine mixed for lawns..... 4.00a5.00

Tobacco - LEAF—

Maryland - Frosted..... \$3 00a 4 00
do. sound common..... 4 00a7 50
do. good do..... 7 00a7 50
do. middling..... 9 00a12 00
do. good to fine red..... 15 00a20 00
do. fancy..... 12 00a17 00
do. upper country..... 7 50a25 00
do. ground leaves, new..... 2 00a 9 00
Virginia—common and good lugs..... 8 50a10 50
do. common to medium leaf..... 9 00a13 00
do. fair to good..... 13 00a16 00
do. selections..... 6 00a20 00
do. stems, common to fine..... 4 00a 7 00

Wool.—For Tub-washed, 35a40 cents; unwashed. 25a30 cents per lb.

Miscellaneous Produce—

Peas, black eye, per bus..... 1 10 a1 20
Apples, New York, per bbl..... 2 50 a3 00
do. country do..... 2 00 a2 50
Sheep's Pelts, each..... 50 a1 00
Tallow, country, per lb..... 8½a 9
Soap, country, per lb..... 4 a 6
Samsac We quote American per ton, \$78.00a82.00; Sicily, 90a1.00.

Fertilizers.—Jobbing rates are here quoted. Contracts for large orders can be made at reduced figures. 2,000 lbs. to the ton.

Peruvian Guano..... \$50 00a65 00
Turner's Excelsior..... \$50 00
do. Ammonia Sup. Phos..... 45 00
Soluble Pacific Guano..... 45 00
Rasin's & Co.'s Sol. S. Is. Guano..... 50 00
Excellenza Soluble Phosphate..... 50 00
do. Cotton Fertilizer..... 50 00
John Bullock & Sons' Pure Ground Bone..... 42 00
J. M. Rhodes & Co.'s Ammoniated Phosphate..... 45 00
Popplein's Silicated Phosphate of Lime..... 50 00
Lorentz & Ritter's Star Tobacco Fertilizer..... 55 00
do. do. do. Ammoniated..... 50 00
do. do. do. Dissolved Bone..... 50 00
R. J. Baker & Co.'s Ground Bone..... 40 00a42 00
R. J. Baker & Co.'s Dissolved Raw Bone..... 45 00
Zell's Ammon. Bone Super Phos..... 45 00
Whitman's Phosphate..... 45 00
Missouri Bone Meal..... 40 00
Horner's Md. Super Phosphate..... 50 00
do. Bone Dust..... 45 00
Dissolved Bones..... 45 00
Moro Phillips' Super Phosphate of Lime..... 48 00
Plaster..... per bbl. 1 75
Orchilla Guan A. per ton..... 30 00
South Sea Guano..... 50 00
Slingluff & Coa Dissolved Raw Bone..... 45 00
Slingluff & Co.'s Dissolved Bone Ash..... 40 00a42 00
Whitman's Potato Phosphate..... 45 00
" Dissolved Missouri Bone..... 45 00
" Bone Ash..... 40 00

JOHN SAUL'S
CATALOGUE OF
New, Rare
—AND—
Beautiful Plants

Will be ready in February, with a
COLORED PLATE OF THE
NEW STRIPED ROSE,
"BEAUTY OF GLAZENWOOD."

"A rose of golden-yellow striped, and flaked with
scarlet or vermillion, sounds like a dream or a fairy-
tale—nevertheless a reality."—H. CURTISS.

In the Garden Catalogues, free to all my custom-
ers; to others, price 10 cents, or a plain copy free.

Plant Department

Contains an immense stock of

NEW, RARE

—AND—
BEAUTIFUL PLANTS!

Viz.:—New Double Poinsettias; New Hydrangea,
"Thos. Hogg;" New Sets of Roses; New Tube-
Roses; Begonias, New Pelargoniums; New Cannas;
New Zonales and Double Geraniums; New Fuch-
sias; New Dahlias, &c.

Roses.

An immense stock of all the standard varieties
grown in pots—cheap.

Fruit & Ornamental Trees.

New Pears, New Peaches—with a large stock of
Pear, Apple, Peach, Plum, Cherries, Standards and
Dwarfs, Grape Vines, Small Fruits, &c.

Ornamental Trees

in great variety for Parks, Lawns, Gardens, &c.

Evergreens

of all sizes, all of the finest quality, and at the
lowest rates.

Vegetable Seeds

of the finest quality, fresh and pure grown by my-
self, or specially for me, or my importation.

Flower Seeds.

Being extensively engaged in importing and
growing

New and Rare Plants,

consequently my facilities for seed saving are un-
equalled.

The following Catalogues with others now ready
mailed free:

*No. 1. A Descriptive Catalogue of
Fruit Trees.*

*No. 2. A Catalogue of Garden, Agri-
cultural, and Flower Seeds.*

*No. 6. A Catalogue of New, Rare,
and Beautiful Plants.*

JOHN SAUL,

Jan-1y

Washington City, D. C.

**20 CHESTER WHITE SOW SHOATS
FOR SALE!**

Weighing about one hundred pounds,
at Twenty Dollars a pair, for breeding
purposes, on Steamer Law, or cars

WM. FORD,

Chestertown, Kent co., Md.

1877-POSTPAID-\$1.60

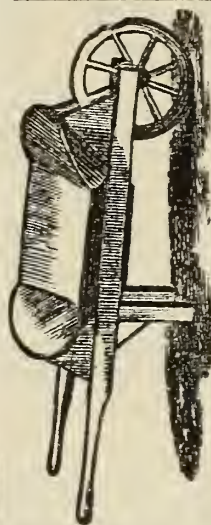
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Barrows packed for foreign Market

POMONA NURSERY MILLIONS of
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Eapt. Jack and Great American, the best Straw-
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\$57 60 Agents' Profits per week.—
Will prove it or forfeit \$500. New
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FOR SALE!

HERB BOOK JERSEY COW,

5 years old, to calve in May

HERB BOOK JERSEY HEIFER,

1 year old;

also, GRADE HEIFER,

and a BERKSHIRE BOAR.

JOHN HENDERSON,

HENDERSON'S WHARF,

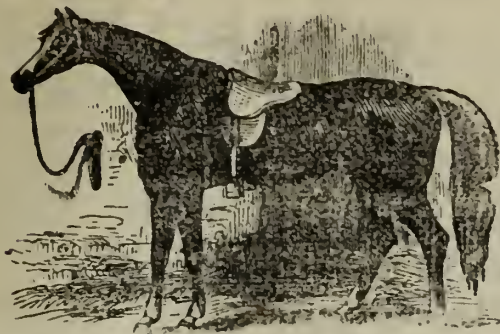
BALTIMORE

FELTON'S New Seeding Raspberries, the
Reliance and Early Prolific.
Being now introduced for the first time, to the pub-
lic. We recommend them as being the largest, most
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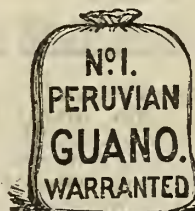
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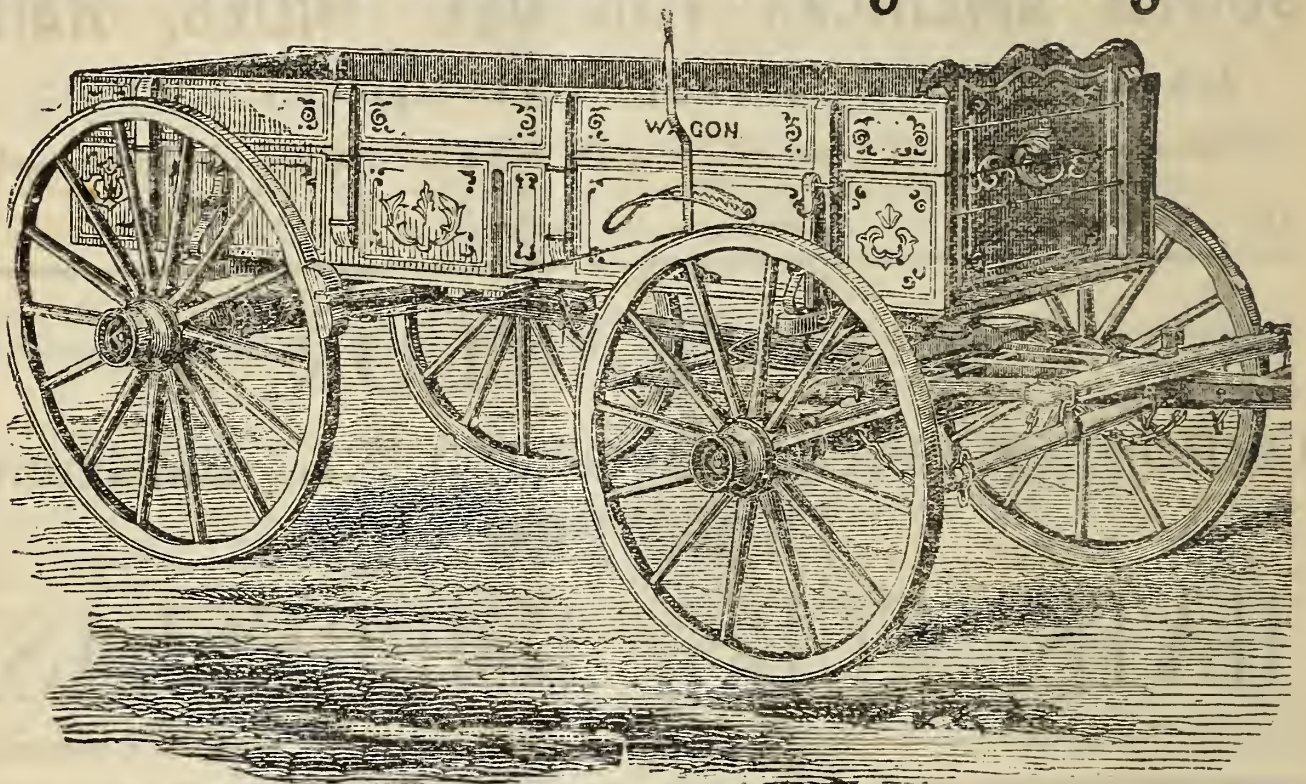
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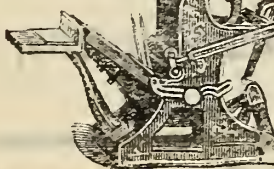
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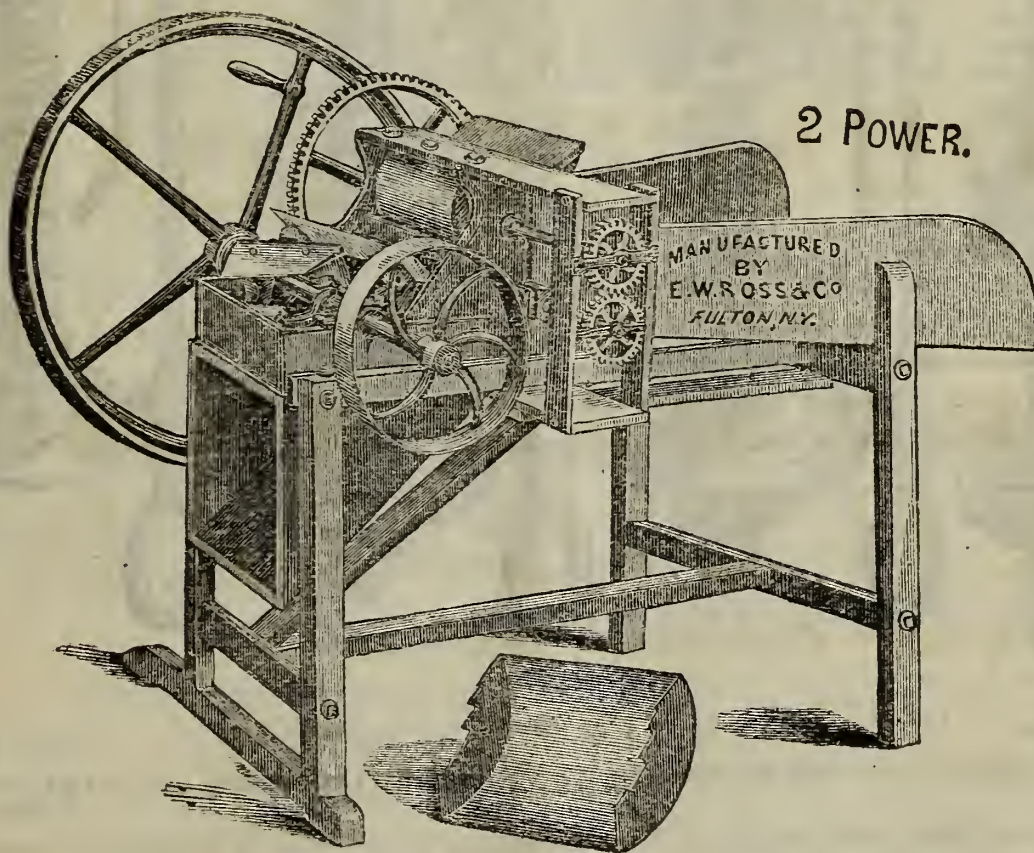
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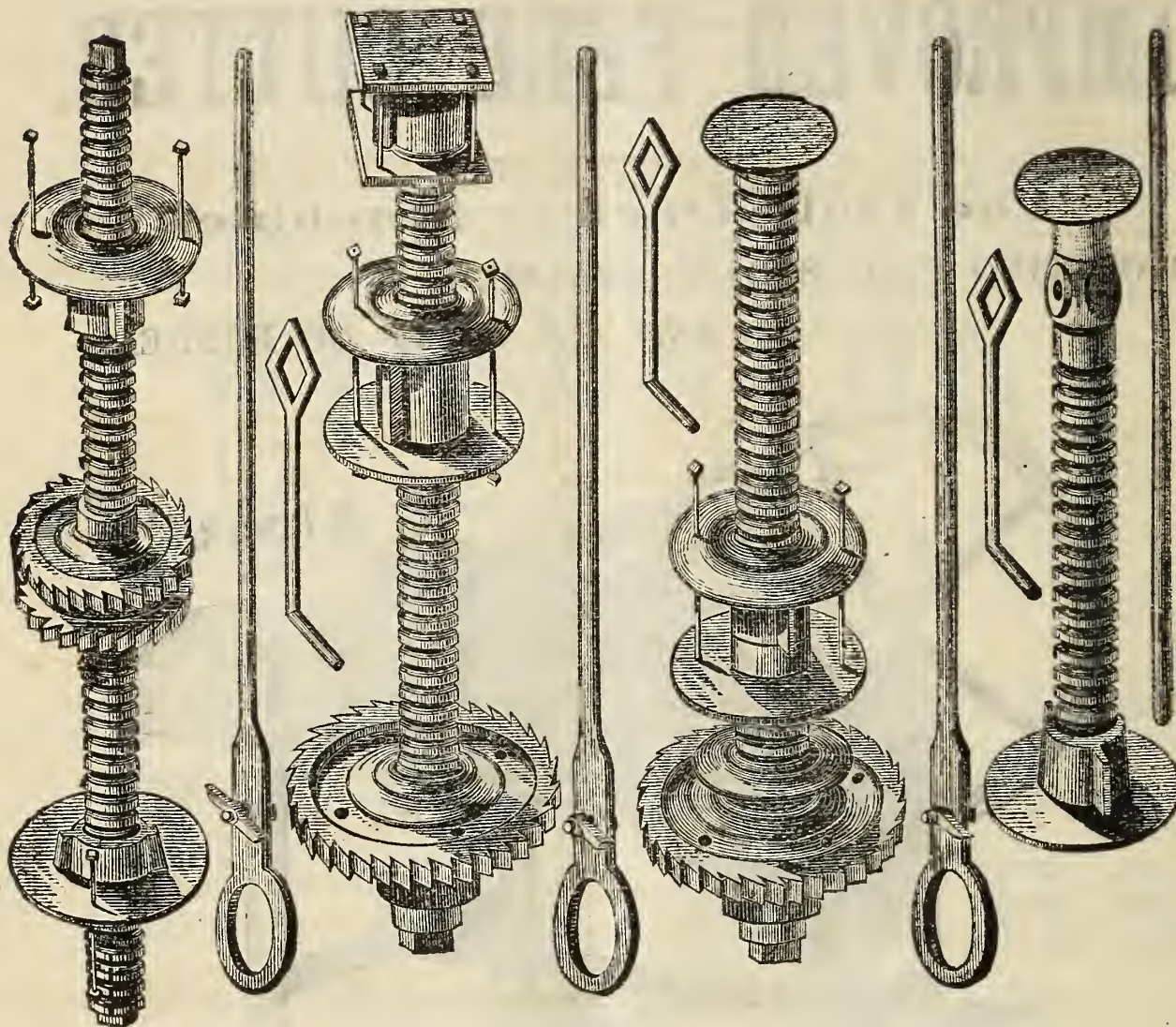
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A cheap and valuable FERTILIZER, can be had at a very low price.

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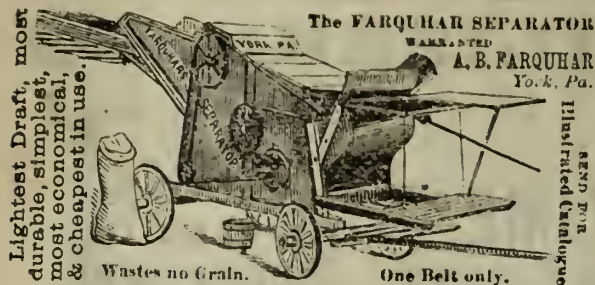
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A. B. Farquhar, Manager & Prop'r.

The Farquhar Separator,

Warranted the best in use. Send for Catalogue.

Horse Powers and Thrashers of all kinds a specialty.

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Works is one of the most extensive establishments of its kind in the United States. It is furnished with improved Machinery, Foundry, Forging Rooms, Planing and Sawing Mills, Lumber Yard, &c., complete within itself. We are situated among the great Iron, Coal and Lumber fields, which form the basis of all manufacturing; and I would respectfully call the attention of the public to these advantages, confident of meriting an extended patronage.

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Polished, Hardened Steel and Cast Iron. Farquhar's Cast Steel Model Plow, one and two horse, warranted in any soil, and under all circumstances, *second to none*.—American Clipper, Full Steel, one, two and three horse. Atwood and Ohio Cast Plows, two and three horse. Subsoil Plows, Steel soled, two and three horse. Hillside or Swivel Plows, &c., &c.

Shovel Plows, Cultivators, Sulkie Plows Made of the best White Oak, or Refined Iron Beams, with hardened Steel Shovels, Plain or Reversible.

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Cultivator Teeth, hardened steel, Shovel Plow Blades, Cotton Scrapers, Improved Dickson Cotton Sweeps, &c., all of best Steel, made expressly for my use.

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This celebrated Horse Power is fast taking precedence wherever introduced; it is more economical, durable and lighter of draft than any other. I make all sizes from two to ten horse.

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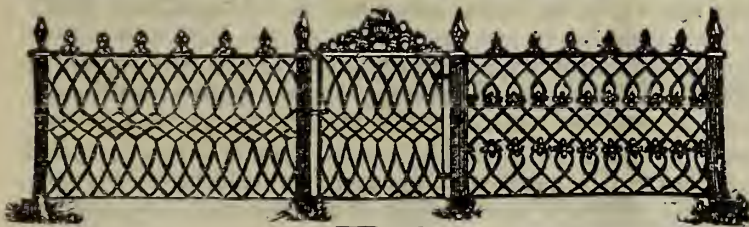
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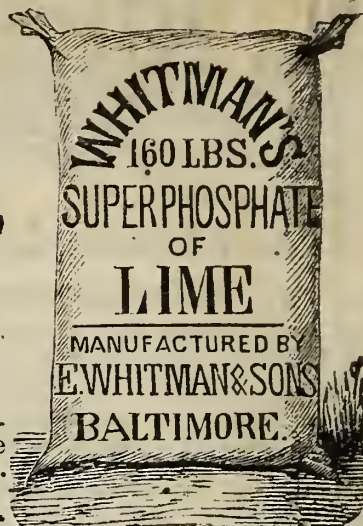
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Manufactured only by E. WHITMAN & SONS,
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Look at the Analysis, and compare it with other Phosphates in the Market.
SOLUBLE BONE PHOSPHATE—25 to 30 per cent.
AMMONIA, - - - - - 2 to 2 1-2 "
POTASH, - - - - - 2 1-2 "

Composed entirely of Pure Dissolved Bone Ash, Dried Blood and Animal Matter, and Potash Salts. No mineral phosphates used. Made of the highest grade materials known. There can be no better phosphate made.

Price \$45 Per Ton, in Sacks, of 160 pounds each.



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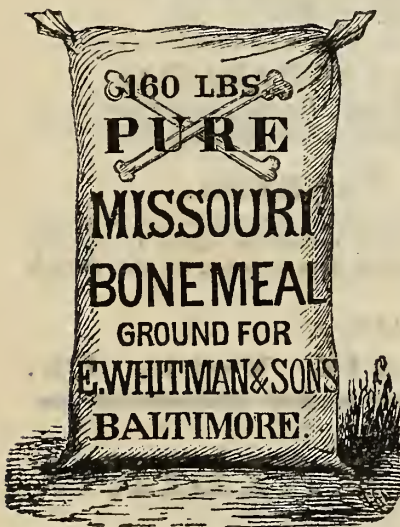
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Bone Phosphate of Lime.....49.51

Which is the highest analysis yielded by pure bone. The largest particles are smaller than timothy seed.

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We have made for several years a Potato Fertilizer, upon the principle that the soil should be fertilized with such plant food as the plants assimilate for their nourishment and growth. Potatoes, Turnips and all root crops, contain very large quantities of potash. For instance: An acre of Wheat takes out of the soil 35 lbs. Potash; whilst an acre of Potatoes takes out 179 lbs. We have sold a large quantity of this fertilizer, and it always has produced the most perfect satisfaction, and we recommend it for Potatoes and all root crops as being the best fertilizer known.

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Peruvian Guano, South Carolina Bone (fine ground or dissolved,) Plaster, Sulphuric Acid, Potash, Sulphate of Soda, Nitrate of Soda, and all kinds of Fertilizer materials always on hand and for sale at the lowest market prices.

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Our "Piedmont" for Cotton, wherever used, has given VERY PROFITABLE RETURNS.

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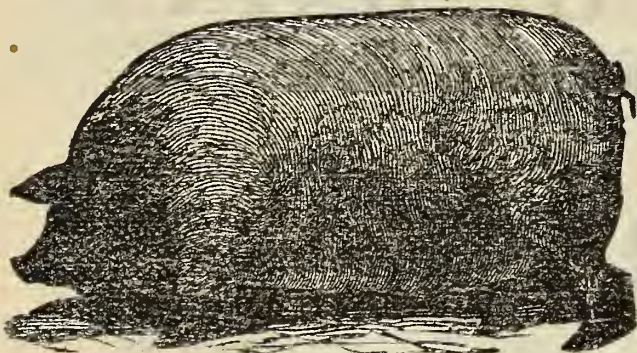
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Our prices will be as low as those of any other reliable seed house in the country, and from the pains that we take in procuring our seeds and caring for them, they must give as good satisfaction as those from any other source.

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We will, upon application, forward our price list to any part of the country, and upon receipt of the prices therein specified, will send seed by mail (at our expense for postage) to any part of the United States. *This, however, does not apply to Peas, Beans, or Field Seeds, upon which postage will be charged.*

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We have always on hand a large supply of every description of Field Seeds, such as

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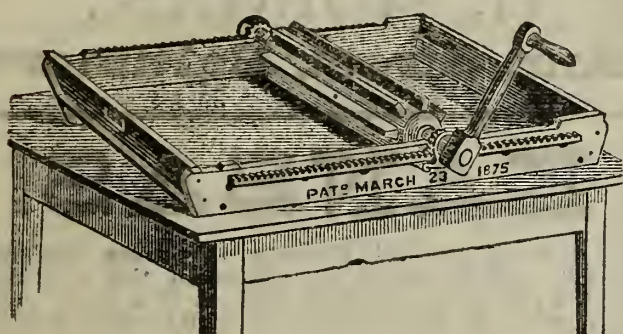
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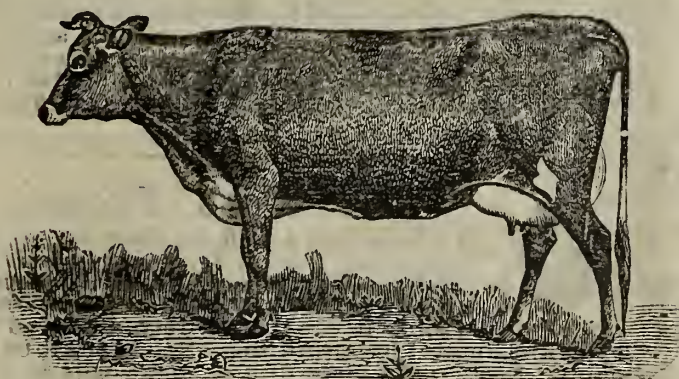
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FLOWER POTS.**

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General Commission Merchants

AND DEALERS IN

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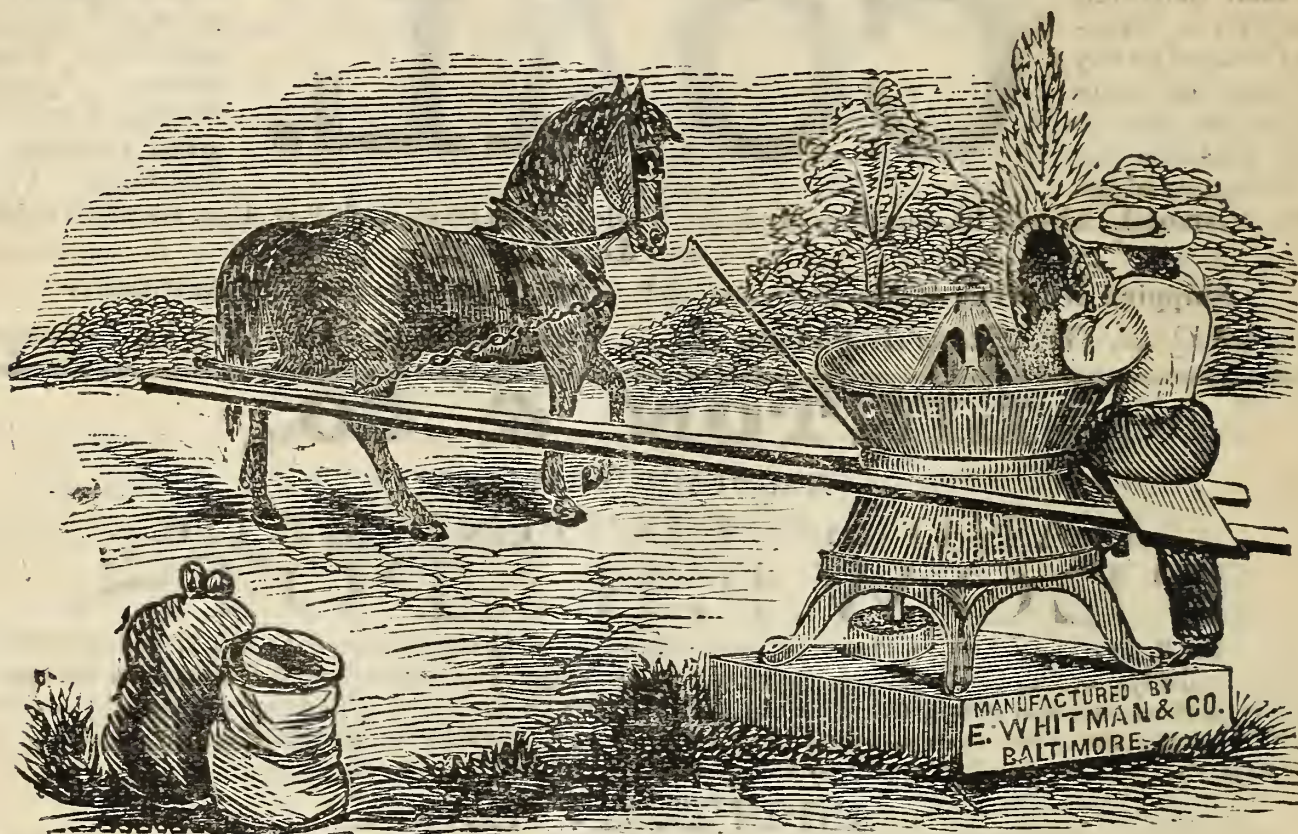
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The Young America Corn and Cob Mill, which so far surpasses all others, has been improved and made stronger than ever, and is now in the field, carrying everything before it. We annex a list of the Premiums it has received over the Double Cylinder, Little Giant, Magic Mill, Star Mill, Maynard's Mill, and all others that have come into competition with it.

First Premium at New York State Fair.
" " " Ohio
" " " Michigan,

First Premium at N. Carolina State Fair.
" " " Nashville, Tenn., Fair.
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PRICE \$50.

TRIAL OF CORN AND COB MILLS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR.

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YOUNG AMERICA,	2 minutes and 40 seconds.
LITTLE GIANT,	4 " 45 "
MAGIC MILL,	6 "
SINCLAIR & CO.'S MILLS,	2 trials, average time, 6 minutes, 58 seconds.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

145 and 147. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Md.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons, Baltimore, Md.

Gents.—Your favor of the 18th, making inquiry of the results of my experience in use of your "Young America Corn & Cob Mill," has been received. I take pleasure in stating that the experiment has been entirely satisfactory, and I regard it as a valuable adjunct in providing for winter-feeding stock, and sold at a very reasonable price, for its merits.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN S. BARBOUR.

RICHMOND, VA., NOVEMBER 1st, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—Yours of 30th received. We have sold quite a number of your "Young America Corn & Cob Mills" during the past year, and they have all given entire satisfaction. We believe it is the best mill of the kind in the market.

Respectfully yours,

H. M. SMITH & CO.

FREDERICK CITY, MD., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—In answer to your inquiry concerning the merits of the "Young America Corn & Cob mill," would say that in our experience we believe it is the best mill for farmers and stock feeders use, that is made. It is cheap, simple, durable, and does good and satisfactory work when the grain is in proper condition for grinding. It will crush the corn and cobs fine enough for feed in one operation, and also grind shell corn, rye, oats, barley, and screenings as good as any grist mill. It is the most economical machine a farmer can buy.

Yours, Respectfully,

STEWART & PRICE.

HILLSBORO, LOUDOUN CO., VA., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—I used one of the "Young America Corn & Cob Mills" last winter, and found it in every respect what it was recommended. Every farmer should have one, and I feel satisfied that the use of the mill one season would pay for it, not only in feeding stock, but in grinding corn for meal, which it will do admirably, also other small grains.

Very respectfully,

T. E. HOUGH.

ELKIN, N. C. NOVEMBER 22nd, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—The "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" bought of you a few months ago, for one of our firm, gives entire satisfaction. Does all you recommend, and more; find it also grinds rye well.

Please send us another for a customer, to Windsor, N. C., via York River Line, as soon as convenient. So soon as our great National affairs are favorably settled, and money matters become easier, we will want several more of these mills.

Yours truly,

R. R. GWYN & CO.

CULPEPER CO., VA., NOVEMBER 19th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—Your postal received to-day. In regard to "Young America Corn & Cob Mill," allow me to say, it will make excellent meal, when the corn is dry. It has worked very satisfactory to me. As to crushing corn and grinding cob meal, that is, corn and cob together; it seems to me it accomplishes all that can be reasonably expected or desired, and has particularly excited the hostility of the millers around me, which may be considered a very fair proof of its merits. I have had 44 bushels cob meal ground in one short winter day by a Negro boy 10 or 12 years old, with one horse.

Yours, &c.,

WALTER C. PRESTON.

HIRNDON, GEORGIA, NOVEMBER 21st, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—With the aid of one mule the "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" makes excellent hominy for the table, and turns out splendid feed for horses, hogs and cows. In a few hours I can grind enough to last my stock a week. I am well pleased with it and would cheerfully recommend their more general use.

Very respectfully,

A. P. WIGGINS.

ILCHESTER, MD., NOVEMBER 4th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—The "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" will grind from six to ten bushels an hour according to the power you have and the fineness of the corn. It will save a great deal of corn in feeding horses; and as for cattle, it has no equal. Cattle improve much faster, and never get stalled if fed with a little care.

Respectfully,

G. HOWARD WHITE.

HANOVER, January 6, 1876.

GENTS.—In reply to yours of the 5th instant, I would say that I have ground eighteen bushels of corn and cob with the Young America Mill in one hour, and can do it with ease, providing the corn is dry, and make it fine enough for any feeding purposes. The majority of our farmers grind shelled corn with the mill, and also grind rye for horse chop, and corn for meal, but what quantity per hour I cannot say.

Yours, truly,

WM. J. YOUNG.

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OUT CHANGE OF GEAR. Will sow Wheat,
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Want.** It beats any Force Feed ever
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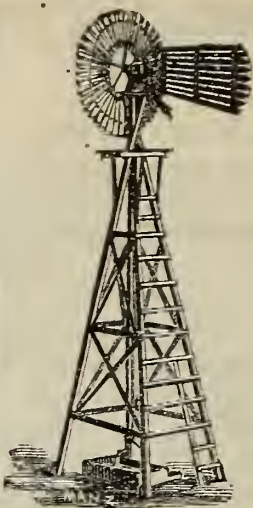
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The BAR is filled with the finest of all kinds of
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Prices moderate. The crowds, which lunch and
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It is a convenient place for travellers, who stop
only a few hours or a day in the city, to get their
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the city.

The Proprietors will be grateful for the continu-
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will do their best to give entire satisfaction to all
visitors.
Jan-ly.

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My annual Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seed for 1877 will be ready by January, and sent free to all who apply. Customers of last season need not write for it. I offer one of the largest collections of vegetable seed ever sent out by any seed house in America, a large portion of which were grown on my six seed farms. Printed directions for circulation on every package. All seed sold from my establishment warranted to be both fresh and true to name; so far, that should it prove otherwise I will refill the order gratis. As the original introducer of the Hubbard and Marblehead Squashes, the Marblehead Cabbages, and a score of other new vegetables, I invite the patronage of all who are anxious to have their seed fresh, true, and of the very best strain. New Vegetables a speciality.

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DRAKES BRANCH, GA., August 15, 1875.

Resolved, That we express to R. W. L. RASIN & CO. our entire satisfaction at the result of the use of their ALKALINE PHOSPHATE the present season.

W. E. McNERY, Master.

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Resolved, That we express our satisfaction to R. W. L. RASIN & CO., as to the very favorable result of their Fertilizer (ALKALINE PHOSPHATE) used by this Grange for the past two years.

A. SHACKELTON, Sect'y.

WM. P. DUPOY, Master.

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